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Hafa Adai!

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House committee recommends passage of bill abolishing DPL

JON PEREZ
Commonwealth Utilities Corp. personnel install a transformer yesterday after replacing the power pole that was knocked down by an uprooted tree in Papago.

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House Committee on Natural Resources has pushed out a bill to abolish the Department of Public Lands and establish a Marianas Lands Corp. that would be governed by a board of trustees empowered with managing and controlling the public lands in the Northern Marianas.

The committee, chaired by Rep. Edwin Aldan (Ind-Tinian), recommended the passage of House Bill 19-82, with amendments, in a standing committee report on Aug. 12.

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CUC restores power to Papago area

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. personnel completed replacing the power pole that was knocked down by a large tree last Tuesday night and in the process restored power in some areas in Papago and nearby houses in Kagman.

The pole that was knocked down was inside the property of Lucia Palacios. Strong winds, brought by a tropical depression, uprooted the tree and knocked down the pole adjacent to it thus cutting the power supply in some parts of the aforementioned areas.

CUC had already replaced the damaged power pole and transformer, and put back the power lines from the road to Palacios'

See CUC on Page 4

SSHS' Miura gets presidential award for Math and Science teachers

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Miura

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching recognized the efforts made by Saipan Southern High School's Dora Borja Miura as an educator. She won the award representing the U.S. territories.

Miura was among the more than 100 Mathematics and Science

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INSIDE

LOCAL
NOAA Fisheries is proposing to enhance protections for Hawaiian spinner dolphins to prevent disturbance and harassment from dolphin-directed human activities.
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ASIA
A North Korean ballistic missile fired from a submarine Wednesday flew about 500 kilometers (310 miles) in the longest flight by that type of weapon
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LIFE & STYLE
Entertainer Cher unloaded a freewheeling barrage of insults at Donald Trump during a private fundraiser for Hillary Clinton.
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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

JON PEREZ
The Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School team of Rota competes in the CNMI Public School System Multiple School Unit JROTC Drill Meet at the Marianas High School grounds last February.

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Local

PSS in the hunt for JROTC instructors

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI State Public School System acting commissioner Yvonne R. Pangelinan is optimistic that they would fill all vacant instructors of the JROTC program within the year particularly in Rota's Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior-Senior High School, which lost their program instructor.

Pangelinan, in last Tuesday's Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee hearing, said filling the vacancies of JROTC instructors has been one of the issues that bother her. "The program has been an issue that is weighing heavily in my heart now but we have been actively recruiting."

The U.S. Army Cadet Command's 8th Brigade at Joint Base LewisMcChord in Washington State is the one in charge of the Army JROTC programs.

"They set the regulations for the program and the instructors that come in and teach in PSS. There are some vacancies but we're going to fill them soon, Pangelinan told *Saipan Tribune* after the budget hearing.

Rota's JROTC team represented the CNMI in the Unarmed Category in the Golden Bear West Coast Nationals Drill meet in Torrance, California this year. A total of 45 schools representing the Air Force, Army, Marine Corp, and Navy JROTC programs from the West Coast competed.

The RHI team earned the right to represent the CNMI in the nationals after winning the overall title in the Unarmed Category last February. They went back to the CNMI with one first place trophy, three runners-up, and third and fourth finishes.

They placed first in the Unarmed Varsity Regulation and second each in the Overall Unarmed Sweepstakes, Unarmed Varsity Color Guard Drill, and Tapout. They also came in third in the Unarmed Varsity Exhibition and fourth in the Unarmed Varsity Commander.

Pangelinan said Saipan Southern High School's lead JROTC instructor is currently assigned to supervise the program on Rota. "He will be there for a month and if we don't get another instructor on board [in September], then we will be rotating the responsibilities with our instructors on Saipan."

An officer in the Army and must be retired for no longer than five years are some of the requirements for a JROTC instructor. "So you can imagine, it is not a very easy task of finding instructors," said Pangelinan, who assumed the acting commissioner role two weeks ago.

"We have vacancies on Rota, Tinian, and a couple on Saipan. We finished interviews for District Army instructor for Saipan and we have several applicants on the list for Tinian and Rota as well."

She added that they would do more interviews before filling all vacant positions in the JROTC program. However, they must still wait for 120 days for the JROTC instructor to get certified from the 8th Brigade even if they have completed the interviews.

Tropical Depression 14W moves away from the Mariana Islands

Tropical Depression 14W moved farther away from the Marianas, prompting acting governor Victor B. Hocog to declare "all clear" conditions for Agrihan, Alamagan, and Pagan as of 2pm yesterday.

As of 7pm yesterday, the center of Tropical Depression 14W was 280 miles north-northeast of Agrihan, 325 miles north-northeast of Pagan, 355 miles north-northeast of Alamagan, and 530 miles north of Saipan, according to the U.S. National Weather Service Guam.

NWS said packing maximum sustained winds at 30 miles per hour and moving north at 28 mph, the tropical depression is expected to turn slowly northeast Wednesday night and today, Thursday, with a gradual decrease in forward speed.

NWS cautioned people of Agrihan, Pagan, and Alamagan to stay out of the water until hazardous seas, surf, and rip currents subside. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Ways and Means OKs bill to decrease grace period for import taxes

The House Ways and Means committee is recommending the passage of a bill to decrease the time given to businesses to pay their excise taxes by half.

House Bill 19-138, authored by Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan), amends current law to change the grace period of payment for excise tax from 30 days to 15 days.

In concurring with the bill's intent, the committee cited written comments from the CNMI Division of Customs, which believes that the proposed 15-day period "is ample time" for a business or importer to prepare payment for their import taxes.

"The 30-day excise tax grace period is too long as it delays revenue collections and usually results in outstanding accounts," wrote Customs director Jose Mafnas in a letter to the committee.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, however, in another comment letter, said that 30 days was reasonable time period for payments owed, and said they strongly opposed the bill.

The Chamber said they represent more than 160 business, non-profit organizations, and government entities and that most businesses routinely pay their obligations on a monthly basis—noting that a decrease in the grace period from a month to 15 days would put "an onerous responsibility on business in our community."

They said the reduced time period would leave insufficient time for correction and noted that once a tax has been paid by a business, it is cumbersome to follow up on a refund for small amounts. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Also recommends passage of bill allowing tax credits donation to judiciary society

The House Committee on Ways and Means has okayed a bill to allow educational tax credits for donations made to the Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society, which runs programs like the High School Mock Trial competition and the Attorney General's Cup.

The Ways and Means Committee, in recommending the bill for passage in an Aug. 8 report, found that NMHS is non-profit corporation established in 2003 and qualifies under tax code as an educational and charitable organization.

"Allowing for the Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society to be included in the list of institutions and organizations [eligible for tax credits] will allow for the contributors to receive the tax credit and allow for the historical society to continue providing for such programs and competitions," the committee said in its four-page report on House Bill 19-173, which is authored by Rep. Vinson Sablan (Ind-Saipan).

Current law establishes a "Educational Tax Credit," a nonrefundable tax credit, to "qualified educational in-

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*On approved credit (OAC). Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicle may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details. Maximum credit card payment toward vehicle purchase is $2,500. While supplies last. **Mazda3 Sedan or Hatchback** total price is $19,995 less 20% down payment. Financed at 5.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of $308.50 or $142 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is $18,510.00. **Mazda6** total price is $21,995 less 20% down payment. Financed at 5.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of $339.36 or $156 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is $20,361.60.

Better treatment of myopia presented in 2016 Optometry's Meeting

Hardt Eye Clinic ophthalmologist Don Hardt said better treatment procedures for what he terms as "Myopia Epidemic" were presented during the 2016 Optometry's Meeting held in Boston from June 23 to July 3.

Hardt said the confab, which was sponsored by the American Optometric Association and the American Optometric Student Association, also allowed the CNMI's eye healthcare to catch up to U.S. standards.

In an email, Hardt said that the AOA has been releasing many new studies in the treatment of various eye conditions that are rampant everywhere, including myopia.

The "Myopia Epidemic," as Hardt explained, is an increasing problem for children and young adults. "This [Myopia or nearsightedness] is a rapidly growing part of the eye care. It has been termed the "Myopia Epidemic" The percentage of children and young adults with myopia (nearsightedness) has increased dramatically over the last 25 years," said Hardt.

Hardt stresses that myopia is a problem that could lead to other serious eye conditions in the future if left untreated. "Worsening myopia leads to an increased dependence on glasses and/or contact lenses. More importantly increasing myopia also increases the risk for a broad range of potentially blinding diseases such as retinal detachment and glaucoma," said Hardt. "Preventing or decreasing myopia progression will dramatically lower a child's likelihood of developing disease later in life."

"New studies were presented at the conference helping to guide this treatment, and to refine our treatment protocols," added Hardt.

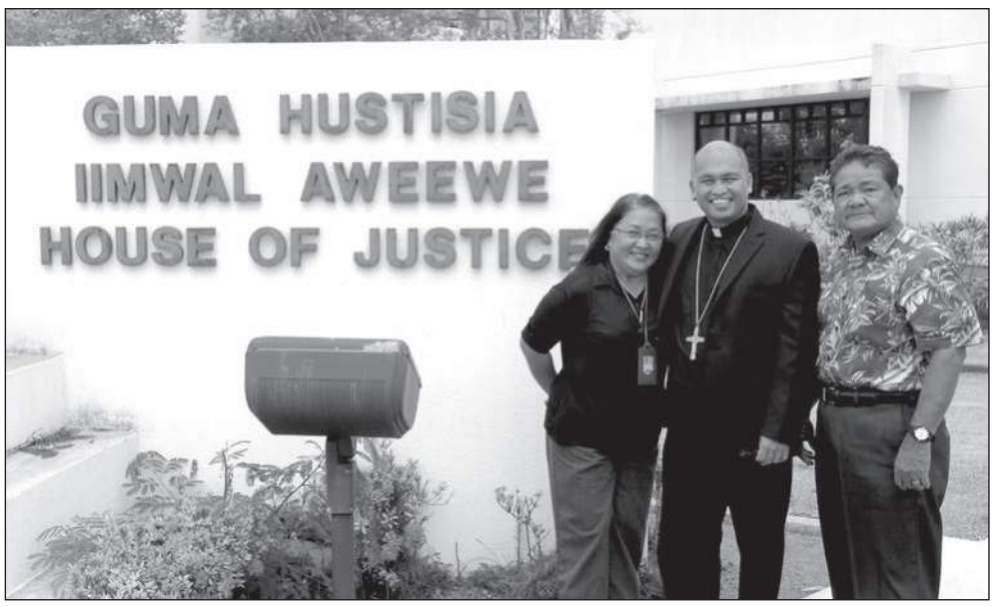
Glaucoma is also on the sights of the AOA. "Glaucoma is the most common serious eye disease seen in the CNMI. Numerous studies were presented which will help to guide changes in our treatment strategies," said Hardt.

New and upcoming means of treating glaucoma are emerging and Hardt is looking to add these to the CNMI arsenal. "There is also emerging technology to better image the optic nerve for improved accuracy of diagnosis and to better guide treatment protocols. We are planning to add this technology over the next few months. The same technology will aid in the diagnosis and treatment planning for diabetic retinopathy."

Chronic eye pain or dryness is less compelling but equally as dangerous if left untreated. Fortunately, Hardt claims that there is a new drug for the treatment of chronic eye pain or dryness. "There is a revolution in new treatments and diagnostic technology for those with chronic eye pain and dryness. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was announced that the first new drug treatment in this category in over 13 years was approved by the F.D.A. It is called Xiidra," said Hardt.

More new treatment procedures would be present for chronic eye pain. "There are several new technologies used to treat these conditions. Again we will be monitoring carefully, and will likely add these in over the next year or so," claims Hardt.

Hardt is enthusiastic that treatment procedures for various conditions in the CNMI are improving and sees no stop to the continuous improvement. "Our treatments have changed dramatically over the last few years, and we can help these patients much more than before. We made a significant investment last year in the Oculus Keratograph, which has greatly enhanced our ability to treat these patients effectively," concluded Hardt. ***(Erwin Encinares)***



NEW BISHOP AT GUMA HUSTISIA FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Diocese of Chalan Kanoa Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez poses with Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro and Castro's secretary, Irene T. San Nicolas, in front of the Judicial Complex in Susupe on Monday. Jimenez was ordained and installed to the Order of Bishops last Aug. 14.

JON PEREZ

From left, governor's special assistant in women's affairs director Doris Reyes Drew, Collin Duenas, and Ike Dela Cruz give the thumbs-up sign after completing the replacement of CUC's power pole and transformer at a residence in Papago.

HOUSE

From Page 1

The amendment deletes an earlier provision that essentially gave the governor the power to appoint the five-member board with advice and consent of the Senate.

The original provision allowed for one member to be from Rota, another from Tinian, and three from Saipan.

The bill now provides a board made up of one resident from the First Senatorial District, or Rota, appointed by the Rota mayor, one resident, from the Second Senatorial District, or Tinian, appointed by the Tinian mayor, one member from the Third Senatorial District, or Saipan and the Northern Islands, appointed by the Saipan mayor, and another member from the Third Senatorial District appointed by the Northern Islands mayor, and "one resident of the Commonwealth at large" to be selected by the governor with advice and consent of the Senate.

In their report, the committee cites the law, or Public Law 15-2, that abolished the Marianas Public Lands Authority to create the Department of Public Lands, transferring the power to manage and administer CNMI public land to the Executive Branch.

The committee noted that the public law established an advisory board comprised of five members from each senatorial district and the CNMI at large by the mayors and governor.

However, the committee believes DPL has been operating and making independent decisions on matters that are directly related to public land management without the presence, input, and advice of the public land advisory board.

"[DPL] has failed to practice 'due diligence and strict standard of fiduciary care' in carrying out the mandates of P.L. 15-2," the committee states, citing the public law.

"Since it was established" the advisory board "has not been organized," the committee went on to state. "Absence the participation of the Public Lands Advisory Board, the Department of Public Lands has failed to comply with the mandate of Section 2 of P.L. No. 15-2, which requires and holds the secretary to 'strict standard of fiduciary care.'"

Citing these alleged "inconsistencies" in the implementation and enforcement of the public law and the interest of protecting public lands, which belong to people of Northern Marianas Descent, the committee said they agree with the bill, which was authored by Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan).

The report also summarizes public hearings held on the bill on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

It found overall consensus of testimony on Rota to be in support of the bill, overall consensus from testimony on Saipan as "overwhelmingly against," and stated that a the third hearing on Tinian gathered a majority of individuals in support of the bill.

MIURA

From Page 1

teachers that were given the PAEMST award, which is administered by the National Science Foundation through the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Miura, according to the PAEMST website, has been part of the CNMI Public School System for more than 20 years where she also taught at the then San Antonio Elementary School and for the last seven as an advanced algebra and geometry teacher at SSHS.

She was also a CNMI distance education high school geometry instructor and a Math methods adjunct instructor at the Northern Marianas College. She is one of the outgoing officers of SSHS' Parent-Teacher-Student Association where she served as secretary.

"I am honored to represent the many exceptional teachers in mathematics. I believe this award promotes the teaching profession and encourages our best and brightest to consider this career," Miura was quoted on the PAEMST website.

Her job as an educator goes beyond the classroom as she holds daily lunch and afterschool peer tutoring groups that help struggling students to improve on their Math skills and understanding of the subject. Top students help her in the afterschool program.

Miura is also one of the movers in having a CNMI-wide mathematics competition that aims to have all students in the Commonwealth to appreciate math more. She shared her research about ethnomathematics, which studies the relationship between Math and culture especially CNMI students, to other PSS instructors.

Miura graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration at Georgetown University and earned her Masters in Education Administration at University of Hawaii at Manoa, the same institution where she finished her Doctorate in Education.

She is a certified CNMI elementary and high school teacher and was named the 2016 CNMI State Teacher of the Year.

CUC

From Page 1

house, thus bringing back electricity in the surrounding areas at around 3pm yesterday

Palacios' house and the surrounding area near it was without power for more than 10 hours, but she said CUC was quick to respond and went to her property with trucks and equipment to fix the damaged pole.

"They were here even before they had their morning coffee. I was very thankful for all their help in assisting us to restore electricity in this area," Palacios told *Saipan Tribune*. "I don't know how strong the winds were in the lower areas but up here, it was really howling."

And that was when she heard a loud crash and the power went out. When she looked outside, the tree fell down and hit the pole. Governor's special assistant for women's affairs Doris Reyes Drew was also quick to come to her aid.

"She [Drew] helped me because I'm disabled and under medication. And when morning came, the CUC people are here. I thank CUC [executive] director Gary Camacho, power manager Lee Lieto, supervisor Jason Reyes, and all the crew," said Palacios.

"That tree must have been more than 100 years old. The birds come here and eat the fruit. We love that tree but it was dangerous since it is near the pole. I've been asking the [Saipan] Mayor's Office for assistance in cutting down trees in the area that are near power poles but I never had the chance to talk to him (Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang) directly," added Palacios.

Close to 30 CUC personnel arrived in Luggat Ladok with their chainsaws and other equipment to clear the remains of the tree.

ALSO

From Page 3

stitutions" provided by law, which include the Public School System, the Northern Marianas College, the Commonwealth Museum of History and Culture, the Northern Marianas Islands Council for Humanities, and the Northern Marianas Sports Association, among others.

NMHS provides programs like Judges in the Classroom Program, Judiciary Pre-Law program, the Ta Fan Eskuela (Let's Go to School) outreach program to provide school supplies for needy students in public schools, the Law and the Freshman Legislator Seminar, and also sponsors the Law Week Essay and Poster competitions. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

CEC starts accepting applications for absentee ballots today

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission will commence today, Thursday, accepting applications for absentee ballots from those who will be off-island during the Nov. 8 general election.

CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez said applicants can either get the absentee ballot application forms from their website, or they can come and pick up the forms at CEC office at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

She said applicants just fill out the form, sign it, then mail or email or fax it to CEC.

Villagomez said they are open from 7:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday, and from 8am to 4pm on Saturdays.

CEC will send the absentee ballots to off-island voters through airmail.

Oct. 14, 2016 is the deadline to accept requests for absentee ballots, while Sept. 9, 2016 is the last day for registration of voters.

» CEC now open every Saturday

The acting CEC executive director said during gubernatorial elections, they received a lot of absentee ballots, but they are expecting less absentee ballots for this Nov. 8 midterm election, which is now called general election.

Villagomez said most of the absentee ballots come from Guam and the U.S. mainland, but that they also receive such ballots from South Korea for those serving in the military and from the Philippines mostly those undergoing medical treatment.

If a registered voter is unable to physically vote at his/her polling place on Nov. 8, he or she may vote by absentee ballot or vote during the 11-day early voting period.

According to CEC, any CNMI registered voter may vote at any election by absentee ballot if he or she feels it likely he or she will be prevented from personally going to the polling places in which he or she is registered to vote and voting on election day because of the conduct of his or her business, the necessity of travel, attendance at an institution of learning, and serving in the U.S. Armed Forces or the merchant marine.

Other reasons are employment, training, receiving treatment at a medical institution, government representation, and accompanying a member of the household who is engaged in any of those listed activities.

Man allegedly catches girlfriend with new boyfriend, breaks into her room with machete

A man armed with a machete allegedly tried to break into the bedroom of his girlfriend after he caught her together with her a new boyfriend in As Lito on Saturday night.

Danilo Dinong Ibrao, 50, was arrested for criminal mischief, assault, disturbing the peace, and violating a court's protection order.

At a hearing on Tuesday, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed a $2,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for Sept. 2 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Ibrao. Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Police Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that prior to the incident, the victim was able to obtain a court's order for protection against Ibrao. She alleged that Ibrao sent her text messages, threatening he would kill her by chopping her if he would find out she is seeing someone.

Aldan said preliminary investigation showed that while the victim and her current boyfriend were resting in her room on Saturday at 10:10pm, they were surprised when they noticed that the window-type air-conditioner was being pulled out.

Ibrao then shouted to open the door so he could kill her and her boyfriend. The victim and her boyfriend ran to the living room.

Using a machete, Ibrao damaged some louvers and cut a hole on the screen of the living room window. The victim called for police's help.

Ibrao was shouting that he would kill them both. Ibrao then walked to the bedroom and tried to climb on the window, where the air-conditioner is.

When he heard that she was talking to police on the phone, Ibrao climbed back down and fled.

When two police officers arrived at 11:04pm, Ibrao was no longer there. He was arrested on Sunday afternoon.

The victim was so traumatized that she was transported to the women's shelter, police said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Senate passes bill green-lighting renovation for Guma Hustisia

The Senate on Monday unanimously approved a House bill to allow the CNMI to fund renovations and expand Judicial Branch buildings through a loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

House Bill 19-126, HD2, HS1 will now be sent to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for his action.

It authorizes the CNMI government to enter into a loan with the USDA for the refinancing of the Guma Hustisia loan and to renovate and expand judicial facilities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, and the Office of the Attorney General and the Public Defender's Office.

The Senate committee on Fiscal Affairs recommended the bill's passage in a committee report on Aug. 19.

The committee found that $4.5-million mortgage loan owed to the Settlement Fund has matured and has not been paid in full. The committee said current terms has the CNMI pay about $120,000 per month but the Judiciary only collects about $50,00 to $60,000 a month in court fines and fees to partially service the debt.

The committee noted that the Retirement Settlement Fund has proposed a refinancing plan to repay the loan over 10 years at 7.75 percent interest, but if the CNMI government enter into a loan with the USDA's Rural Development program, the CNMI can payoff the outstanding mortgage on the Guma Hustisia, and make necessary renovations and expansions on judicial buildings across the CNMI and on the attorney general and public defender officers," at a fixed rate of 2.75 percent interest and free of pre-payment penalties."

The Senate believes that the USDA loan payments can be less than the Judiciary's monthly collections of $50,000 to $55,000.

The bill "presents a highly valuable solution in servicing the current mortgage…while at the same time significantly lowering the monthly payments and renovating the existing government facilities," the committee said. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Probable cause found to charge retired US Army reservist

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa K. Kim-Tenorio yesterday found probable cause to charge retired U.S. Army reservist Michael Barry Murphy over the alleged sexual abuse of a 4-year-old girl.

As this developed, assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub said the government is going to file separate charges against Murphy for allegedly also sexually abusing the 4-year-old girl's 20-year-old mother, who disclosed that the defendant also sexually abused her when she was 9 to 12 years old between 2005 and 2008.

At a preliminary hearing, Kim-Tenorio found probable cause to believe that the crimes of two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree were committed and that Murphy may have committed such offenses.

» OAG plans to file separate charges over another alleged victim

Kim-Tenorio ordered the 54-year-old Murphy to answer the charges.

Arraignment will be on Aug. 29 at 9am.

The judge granted Weintraub's motion to dismiss the charge of assault and battery as it is already a lesser included offense of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

At the hearing, Weintraub called to the witness stand Police Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan, who narrated to the court about their investigation that led to Murphy's arrest last Aug. 15.

The prosecutor stated in the information that Murphy sexually abused the 4-year-old girl last Aug. 6.

Attorney Janet H. King is private counsel for the defendant.

According to Pangelinan's report, the 20-year-old woman stated that when she came back home last Aug. 5 at 2am, she was shocked and scared upon seeing Murphy sexually abusing her 4-year-old daughter in the room.

Another woman, 26, also told police that the defendant sexually abused her when she was 9 to 14 years old at a house on Capital Hill and in a jungle in Obyan.

WE WILL NEVER FORGET

Bridge Capital, LLC, an international investment banking and asset management company, donated $1,000 to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation-hosted event We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes, an event in commemoration of heroes past and present who have been serving the U.S., especially those who fell during 9/11. The event, which is open to the entire community of Saipan, calls for the island community to purchase American flags, all proceeds of which would go toward the treatment of veterans and present military personnel that are diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or PTSD.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Linda Lam, owner of Modern Stationery & Trading Co., poses with staff and Eunice Angeles, program specialist for Tan Holdings Corporate Affairs, while presenting a check worth $1,000 for donation to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation event We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ON 2 CHINESE NATIONALS DRIVING ERRATICALLY

US govt wants to exclude proposed expert testimony of ex-lawmaker/cop

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. government wants to exclude a defendant's proposed expert witness testimony of a former lawmaker/police officer about the alleged erratic driving behavior of two Chinese co-defendants who both pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine or "ice."

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, however, yesterday denied without prejudice the U.S. government's motion to exclude defendant Zhaopeng Chen's proposed expert witness testimony of former representative/police officer Christopher Leon Guerrero.

Manglona said the U.S. government may renew the motion at an appropriate time in the course of Chen's trial.

Manglona said Chen's expert, Leon Guerrero, would be a rebuttal witness, and the court has yet to determine whether the U.S. government's witness will be permitted to give expert testimony.

The judge said if the U.S. government's witness is permitted to testify, the court will be inclined to allow the defense a rebuttal expert.

The U.S. government informed the court and Chen that it would substitute out Drug Enforcement Administration agent Kirk Johns' testimony for that of case agent Ray Renguul.

Manglona noted that each party complains that the qualifications of the other party's proposed expert witness have not been disclosed, as required by Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Manglona pointed out that given that both witnesses Leon Guerrero and Renguul have had long careers in local law enforcement and are well known in the local legal community, the delay in adherence to this disclosure obligation is unlikely to have prejudiced either party.

The judge ordered each party to provide the other with its expert witness' qualifications no later than Friday, Aug. 26.

In the U.S. government's motion in limine to exclude Chen's proposed expert witness testimony, assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe said they received notice last Aug. 13 through a letter from defendant's counsel that defendant intended to call Leon Guerrero as an expert witness at trial.

Leon Guerrero

Motion in limine refers to a request made before the start of a trial asking that the judge rule that certain evidence may, or may not, be introduced to the jury in a trial.

Backe said according to the notice, Leon Guerrero will testify that there is an alternative explanation for the alleged driving behavior of Chen's co-defendants Shicheng Cai and Xi Huang, generally, but particularly as they are drivers from the People's Republic of China.

The notice also stated that Leon Guerrero will also testify that even if Cai and Huang were driving in an anti-surveillance way, it does not follow that Chen understood what Huang was doing.

The notice added that generally, Leon Guerrero's testimony will rebut the opinion of Renguul.

Backe said Chen has not provided the bases and reasons for Leon Guerrero's opinions or even his qualifications.

Backe said Chen wants Leon Guerrero to testify in an expert capacity that Huang and Cai could have been driving erratically because they are from China, and furthermore, that Huang's manner of driving does not mean that he understood what Huang was doing.

"But the conclusion that a tourist might have difficulty driving in a foreign country is not an expert opinion; it is an expression of common sense," the prosecutor said.

Backe said the same goes for the conclusion that Huang's driving does not prove Chen's knowledge of the drug transaction.

In Chen's opposition to the motion, attorney David G. Banes said the court should deny it because the defendant provided proper notice, even though the U.S. government has not yet complied fully with Rule 16 concerning its experts.

Banes said there is also no legal basis or authority for the U.S. government's demand that Chen be precluded from offering testimony on the same topic as the U.S. government's proposed expert, and such a request is patently unfair.

Banes said the U.S. government has noticed its intent to introduce expert opinion testimony from a law enforcement officer that the vehicles driven by Cai and Huang were engaged in "counter-surveillance" tactics, such as speeding up, slowing down, and pulling over to the side of the road.

Banes said Chen has provided notice to the U.S. government of the expected expert testimony despite the U.S. government's failure to describe qualifications of their new expert.

Banes said if expert opinion testimony about the meaning of how Cai and Huang were driving is a matter of common sense as the U.S. government argues it is, then the U.S. government's expert is improper under the same reasoning.

The indictment charged Chen, Huang, and Cai with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine over the shipment of 4.9 lbs of "ice" worth $850,000 in 2015.

Chen pleaded not guilty. His jury trial will commence on Tuesday, Aug. 30.

Huang and Cai both pleaded guilty. Huang was recently slapped with 188 months or 15 years and eight months of imprisonment. Cai has yet to be sentenced.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Marianas Visitors Authority Product Development manager Tatiana Babauta, left, and Brilliant Star Montessori principal Richard Sikkel, right, hold their right hands up while being sworn into the Rotary Club of Saipan at the Hyatt Regency Saipan last Tuesday as Rotary Club of Saipan officials look on.

Tatiana Babauta is newest member of Rotary Club

Marianas Visitors Authority Product Development manager Tatiana Babauta is the newest member of the Rotary Club of Saipan, alongside Brilliant Star Montessori principal of Richard Sikkel. Babauta and Sikkel were inducted last Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan during the the organization's weekly meeting.

Babauta said she is honored to know that she and Sikkel have been inducted into the Rotary Club of Saipan.

"I feel honored. I really feel very honored to be part of such an amazing group of people who are devoted and motivated to put all the energy and heart to all the projects of the Rotary and not only for their own personal business and agenda," said Babauta.

Babauta also notes that the Rotary Club of Saipan has been doing a big part for the community. "The Rotary Club has done a lot of great projects that benefits the community overall," she said.

Founded in February 1968, the Rotary Club of Saipan consists of approximately 40 members from all aspects of the island community. It is dedicted to upholding the principles established by Rotary International in all aspects of people's lives whether at home or abroad.

Rotary Club of Saipan meets weekly at 11:45am at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's Restaurant for lunch fellowship. Rotarians from around the world are welcome to join. Non-Rotarians should be invited and accompanied by a Rotarian.

The club is involved with a variety of community projects. All its fundraising goes back into community service. All of its administrative fees are paid for through membership dues.

Rotary is a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. For more information visit www.rotary.org. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Kagman cluster schools PTSA on Sept. 1

The Kagman cluster schools—Kagman Elementary School, Kagman High School, and Chacha Oceaview Middle School—will hold its PTSA meeting on Sept. 1, 5pm.

PTSA is a place where parents can get active and do something with the schools. Your partnership and involvement is highly encouraged!

All PTSA attendees get raffle tickets to win prizes the night of the meeting and for a chance to win in the big end-of-the-year raffle. The more you attend, the more chances you have to win!

Should you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at the numbers listed below.

- KagES main office: 664-3911
- COVMS main office: 664-4100
- KHS main office: 664-3780 ***(PR)***

COTA relocating Marianas Business Plaza

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority would like to inform the general public that our office will be relocating to the 2nd floor of the Marianas Business Plaza (formerly Nauru Building) in Susupe starting today, Aug. 25, 2016.

For reservations, please call (670) 664-2690 or email us at cnmicallaride@gmail.com.

Thank you for understanding. ***(PR)***

SBDC training on Rota postponed

The Small Business Development Center CNMI training scheduled today, Aug. 25, on Rota has been postponed until further notice. SBDC apologizes for the inconvenience and for the public's continued support and understanding. ***(PR)***

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670)234-7859
Fax: (670)234-5749

Attorney for Interest Party: Norman T. Tenorio

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:	**Civil Action No. 97-0307**
CONCEPCION MUNA MANGLONA,	**AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE PETITION FOR DECREE OF PARTIAL DISTRIBUTION**
Decedent.	**Date: September 22, 2016 Time: 9:00 a.m. Judge: Joseph N. Camacho**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 22nd day of September, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., a hearing will be held before the Honorable Joseph N. Camacho on the Interested Party's Petition for Decree of Partial Distribution in the above-styled matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 14th day of July, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 04-2016

Opening date: July 29, 2016 **Closing date: August 26, 2016**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position:
(1) AOA Controller-I (Saipan)
(1) Mechanic-I (Saipan)
(1) Vessel Traffic Controller-I (Port of Saipan)
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota)
(1) Administrative Assistant (Rota)
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Tinian)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original police record not more than six (6) months old, copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, August 26, 2016 (ChST).*** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal. For additional information, please contact the HR Office by calling (670) 237-6500 or via email at evelyn.sablan@cpa.gov.mp.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

Behind this lifestyle, there's a Yes.
We'll help you strengthen the financial stepping stones that lead to your milestones.
UPGRADE TO PRIORITY BANKING℠
• Save up to 0.35% on qualifying loans[1]
• Banking privileges and discounts
• Free for 6-months[1]
See a Customer Service Representative to open an account.
Receive a Deluxe Golf Umbrella when you open a Priority Banking Account by 8/31/16.[2]
First Hawaiian Bank
IT ALL STARTS WITH YES
Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090 Fax (670) 235-3094
Oleai Branch, Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan Laulau • Tel: (670) 234-6559 Fax: (670) 236-8936
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1 After the first 6 months, a monthly service charge may be assessed if the required minimum combined balance for your Priority Level is not maintained. The monthly service charge is $13 for Priority Level 1, $17 for Level 2, and $22 for Level 3. Banking services and special benefits depend on the Priority Level you apply for and maintain. These benefits may be lost if account is closed or converted to another type of account. All loan-related products are subject to credit approval and loan funding. Please see a Priority Banking Plan Checking Account Agreement for specific terms and conditions. These offers cannot be combined with any other discounts, offers or promotions. Minimum balance requirement excludes commercial loans for the purpose of purchasing, improving, or the construction of real estate.

2 The minimum deposit to open an account and obtain an umbrella is $100 for Priority Banking Levels 1 and 2, and $1000 for Level 3. You will receive the umbrella as a gift when you mention this offer at the First Hawaiian Bank branch and open or convert to a new personal Priority Banking Checking account. Limit: One umbrella per customer or account. We reserve the right to substitute an item of similar value. Offer expires 8/31/16, or when supplies are exhausted.

Chamolinian, Filipino performances at int'l festival

Week 2 of the 2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures on Saturday, Aug. 27, will highlight indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian performances on stage, as well as Filipino. The festival celebrates the cultural diversity of the Northern Mariana Islands and will also be held every Saturday in September from 5pm to 10pm at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan.

This Saturday's stage entertainment includes the Chamorro community at 6:30pm and 8:30pm. The Filipino community will perform at 7:30pm, and the Carolinian community will give the closing performance at 9:30pm.

This year, the MVA and participating cultures are putting equal emphasis on stage entertainment and hands-on experiences, including participation this week by the Chamorro and Carolinian Heritage Month Committee. Last Saturday the Filipino community invited volunteers on-stage to try the nimble "tanikling" dance and play the "mama papa" clapping game. The Carolinian community demonstrated the weaving of coconut fronds and gave away woven head adornments, fish, and other creations to the audience. Cultural demonstrations were also made at individual booths.

"As we say in Chamorro and Carolinian, the opening night of the festival last week was 'blessed' by the rain," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "It rained at first, but cleared up into the evening, and both visitors and residents enjoyed themselves. We're looking forward to another great night this weekend."

In addition, each week the festival will feature on-site preparation of a favorite island delicacy, roast pig.

"The roast pig got a lot of attention," said MVA Community Projects specialist Ryan Calvo, the event's lead coordinator. "Not only were visitors fascinated by the process and busy taking pictures, but both visitors and residents were eager to get a taste. It was cooked to perfection."

The festival is sponsored by PDM Promoters, Team PDI, Division of Parks & Recreations, Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Works, Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, KKMP, Best Sunshine International, Ltd., and Power 99. The festival will also include arts and crafts and ethnic cuisine. Admission is free. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

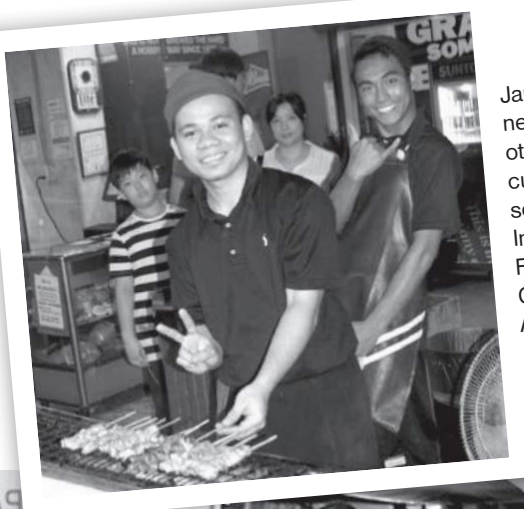
The Filipino community teaches a young audience member the fancy footwork of the "tanikling" dance at the International Festival of Cultures on Aug. 20, 2016. The festival will be held on Aug. 27 and Sept. 3, 10, 17, and 24, 2016, at Paseo de Marianas, Saipan.

The Filipino community teaches the "mama papa" clapping game to festival-goers at the International Festival of Cultures on Aug. 20, 2016, on Saipan.

The live roasting of a pig fascinates festival-goers at the International Festival of Cultures on Aug. 20, 2016, on Saipan.

The Carolinian community demonstrates coconut frond weaving at the International Festival of Cultures on Aug. 20, 2016, on Saipan.

Jacob Teuira of the Tahitian community demonstrates weaving at the International Festival of Cultures on Aug. 20, 2016, on Saipan.



Japanese and other ethnic cuisine is served at the International Festival of Cultures on Aug. 20, 2016.

Marianas Visitors Authority Naomi Santos distributes Saipan-da backpacks at the International Festival of Cultures on Aug. 20, 2016.

The Chamorro community performs at the International Festival of Cultures on Aug. 20, 2016.

DURING CENTENNIAL BIRTHDAY MONTH

AMP invites everyone to #FindYourPark

The National Park Service invites visitors of all ages to join in the celebration of its 100th birthday throughout the month of August. With special events across the country, and free admission to all 412 national parks from Aug. 25 through Aug. 28, the NPS is encouraging everyone to #FindYourPark/#EncuentraTuParque for the centennial.

"August—our birthday month—will be a nationwide celebration of national parks, and we're inviting everyone to the party," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. "We like to think that we look pretty good for 100, and with so many events and activities to commemorate this milestone, we hope all Americans will join us to celebrate the breathtaking landscapes and inspiring history in our nation's parks and public lands. Whether it is in a distant state or in your own community, there are hundreds of ways and places to find your park!"

Special events

To help NPS celebrate, spend some time at American Memorial Park. Visit our memorials, walk through history at our Visitor Center or participate in these activities:

■ **Sunday Story Time**—Sundays, for the month of August (1pm-2pm pm), children are invited to come and read Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr. After the reading, join us making paper cranes to send to the Children's Peace Memorial in Hiroshima, Japan.

■ **Day of Service**—Saturday, Aug. 27 (7am-11 am)—In partnership with the office of Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan, volunteers from American Red Cross, the CNMI Public School System AmeriCorps program volunteers, and members of the public will assist with a variety

» Special events on Saipan and across the US will celebrate NPS' 100th anniversary

of park projects. Volunteers should wear closed toe shoes, sunscreen, and hats! You can register to participate at the Red Cross, Congressman Sablan's office, or the American Memorial Park Visitor Center located in Garapan. For more information please contact Ranger Brooke Nevitt at 234-7207 x 2020 or email brooke_nevitt@nps.gov.

Find your park to celebrate the centennial

On Aug. 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the act that created the National Park Service "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for future generations."

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of that moment and to look ahead to the next 100 years, in early 2015 the National Park Service and the National Park Foundation launched the Find Your Park/Encuentra Tu Parque movement. Inspiring people from all backgrounds to celebrate and support America's national parks and community-based programs, #FindYourPark/#EncuentraTuParque invites people to discover and share their own unique connections to our nation's natural landscapes, vibrant culture, and rich history.

About NPS

More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 409 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities.

Visit us at www.nps.gov, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice, Twitter at www.twitter.com/natlparkservice, and YouTube at www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice. ***(PR)***

Submarine force to open new trainer in Guam

SANTA RITA, Guam—Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific (NSTCP) detachment Guam is holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for the brand new Mobile Trainer (MT) 1000 submarine firefighting trainer Aug. 26 at 8:30am.

The MT-100 is the hottest firefighting trainer in the U.S. Navy and can run until temperatures reach 700 degrees Fahrenheit. It is designed to train service members both Basic Firefighting and Responsive Team Training to improve the casualty response of forward deployed units in the Western Pacific.

NSTCP det Guam is a located at Polaris Point in Apra Harbor, Guam and shares a building with Commander, Submarine Squadron 15. Together, they are responsible for providing training, material and personnel readiness support of four Los Angeles-class attack submarines stationed in Guam and submarines deployed throughout the Pacific Ocean. The submarines and submarine tenders USS Frank Cable (AS 40) and USS Emory S. Land (AS 39) are maintained as part of the U.S. Navy's forward-deployed submarine force and are readily capable of meeting global operational requirements.

For more news from Commander, Submarine Squadron 15, visit http://www.csp.navy.mil/css15 and https://www.facebook.com/SubmarineSquadron15/.

For more news from Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific Detachment Guam, visit https://www.facebook.com/NSTCPDETGUAM/. ***(PR)***

International Exhibition of Contemporary Print set today

Demonstrating printmaking techniques from across the globe, the University of Guam Isla Center for the Arts will premiere its latest showcase titled the International Exhibition of Contemporary Print UOG 2016.

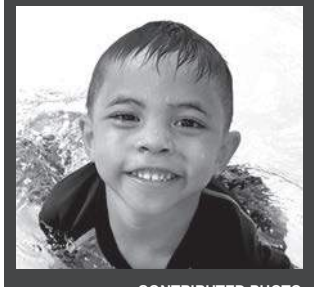
The exhibition, curated by Assistant Professor of Art Dr. Irena Keckes, includes works by 23 printmakers from Australia, Croatia, India, Japan, New Zealand, Serbia, the United Kingdom, the U.S. mainland, and Guam.

The opening ceremony will be held Aug. 25 at 6pm and the entire selection will be displayed until Oct. 14. The Isla Center for the Arts is open to the public and free of charge.

The project is supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities, the Office of the Governor, and the University of Guam.

Isla Center for the Arts is located at House #15, Dean's Circle on the University of Guam Campus. For more information, contact the UOG Isla Center for the Arts at (671) 735-2965 or islacenter@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



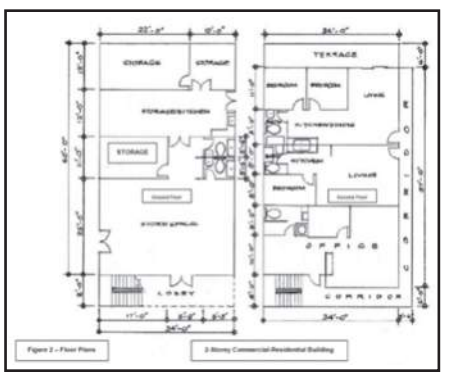
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Wishing you another year full of love, happiness, and blessings. Happy 5th birthday Tatum Mamet M. Jones. Love, Daddy, Mommy, and Logan Luke

Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 I Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
LEASE

COMMERCIAL BUILDING
Lot No. 444-1
SUSUPE, SAIPAN



The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) is seeking proposals from individuals or companies to lease Lot 444-1 and its improvements located in Texas Road, Susupe, Saipan. The total land area is 1,856 square meters. The two-storey, semi-concrete framed building situated on the property has a building area of 3,928.50 square feet.

Terms and Condition of Lease

Property is being leased "AS IS, WHERE IS, WITH ALL FAULTS". All Prospective Lessees are encouraged to visit the property prior to submitting a proposal and are asked to contact Mr. Oscar C. Camacho, Loan Manager at ext. 306 to schedule an appointment. Prospective Lessee must rely on its own investigation and review of the physical, environmental, economic use, compliance, and legal conditions of the Property.

Proposal should include the following information:

- Proposed lease amount and term not to exceed fifteen (15) years
- Name, address and telephone number of contact person.

Proposals entitled "PROPOSAL – SUSUPE COMMERCIAL BUILDING" must be received by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 31, 2016 and should be addressed to:

Mr. Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director
Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149
Saipan, MP 96950

Lease will be awarded to the individual or company with the offer most beneficial to CDA.

The CDA reserves the right: (1) to cancel this Notice at any time for any reason (2) to accept or reject any and all proposals and (3) to request additional information prior to or upon the final selection of a Lessee.

Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 I Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR LEASE

COMMERCIAL BUILDING
CHALAN KANOA, SAIPAN

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) is seeking proposals from individuals or companies to lease Lot 014 H 08 and its improvements located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan near the U.S. Post Office. The total land area is 1,638 square meters and has a building area of 5,858 square feet.

Terms and Condition of Lease

Property is being leased "AS IS, WHERE IS, WITH ALL FAULTS". All Prospective Lessees are encouraged to visit the property prior to submitting a proposal and are asked to contact Mr. Oscar C. Camacho, Loan Manager at 234-6245 ext. 306 to schedule an appointment. Prospective Lessee must rely on its own investigation and review of the physical, environmental, economic use, compliance, and legal conditions of the Property.

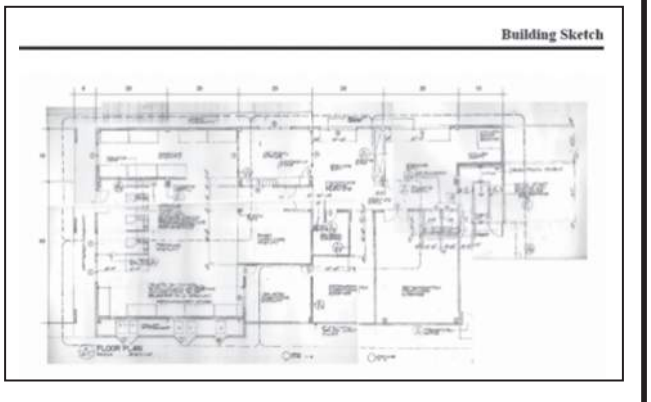
Proposal should include the following information:

- Proposed lease price and term
- Name, address and telephone number of contact person.

Proposals entitled "PROPOSAL– CHALAN KANOA COMMERCIAL BUILDING" must be received by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 31, 2016 and should be addressed to:

Mr. Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director
Commonwealth
Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149
Saipan, MP 96950

Lease will be awarded to the individual or company with the offer most beneficial to CDA.



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Clinton health rumors are ludicrous

Eight years ago, at a campaign town hall meeting in Minnesota, a woman told Republican nominee John McCain that she was troubled by the prospect of a Barack Obama presidency.

"I can't trust Obama," the woman said into a wireless microphone McCain had handed her. "I have read about him and he's not, he's not uh – he's an Arab."

It was a sentiment Republicans had expressed frequently at events that week in 2008. It was, for McCain, a moment that candidates regularly face — a decision about which thresholds they'll allow their campaigns to cross.

So it is — once again — with Donald Trump. This time it involves old rumors that Hillary Clinton has significant, hidden health issues. Until recently, those murmurings had mostly resided in the same dark corners of the internet that other conspiracy theories fester. No longer.

On Sunday, Trump adviser Rudy Giuliani told FOX News that the media was covering up "several signs" of Clinton's health problems. "Go online and put down, 'Hillary Clinton illness,' take a look at the videos for yourself," Giuliani said, incredibly.

We'll save you the trouble. The videos claim that Clinton is hiding varying levels of head injury or brain affliction. Her health is in severe decline, they say, and as proof they offer (falsified) medical records signed by Clinton's physician.

As with many conspiracy theories, the Clinton health claims grew from a seed of truth, in this case Clinton falling and sustaining a concussion in December 2012. She was hospitalized that month and treated for a blood clot in a vein behind her ear, but she has had no similar episodes since, including during this year's grueling campaign.

That hasn't stopped the speculation, which begins on pro-Trump social media accounts and is fanned by media types such as Matt Drudge and FOX News personality Sean Hannity. It wouldn't be fair, certainly, to hold Trump or any candidate responsible for all the wild things supporters say. But Trump's campaign has jumped in the mud with the conspiracists.

Last week, spokeswoman Katrina Pierson told MSNBC that Clinton has dysphasia, a brain condition that affects a person's ability to speak and comprehend language. Pierson, apparently, has some of Giuliani's internet sites bookmarked. "There are really interesting things out there," she said.

Trump, for his part, hasn't yet directly engaged in speculation about a Clinton brain injury, choosing instead the barely higher road of questioning her stamina and strength.

This is the point at which we'd normally urge Trump to disavow speculation about dysphasia, concussions and the rest. But given his fondness for conspiracies — he was an enthusiastic Obama birther — we know that's not going to happen.

Instead, we'll finish the story of John McCain and the Minnesota town hall. It's a reminder that at least some of

See CLINTON on Next Page

If Trump won't pay his bills, will he pay America's?

By MONICA PRASAD
Los Angeles Times

Monica Prasad is professor of sociology and faculty fellow in the Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University. This column, written for the Los Angeles Times*, draws on material from a recent article in* Politics and Society.

For several years now, two colleagues and I have been interviewing white working-class voters in the Midwest about their political beliefs. Our interviews suggest a strategy for defeating Donald Trump.

The biggest surprise was what the word "conservative" means to these voters. Before we conducted this study, we thought the word "conservative" referred to a worldview that favors traditional attitudes and behavior, and opposes social change. In economic terms, we thought "conservative" meant lower taxes and less regulation.

But that's not what the self-identified conservatives among our interviewees believe. Over and over again, they told us that "conservative" means paying one's bills and staying out of debt. We were surprised by the strength of the passion expressed on this point. For our respondents, a conservative is someone who is frugal and avoids debt. A liberal, by contrast, borrows and goes into debt.

Our interviewees associate these patterns with conservatives and liberals at both the individual and governmental level, and they vote for Republicans because Republicans are more likely to talk about avoiding debt as a moral issue for individual families and for the country.

In the words of one interviewee, "Democrats are liberal. I'm conservative so that has a bearing on my thinking. I was always taught if you don't have the dollar, you don't buy. Look at the trillions that our government is in debt, our nation, and they continue to spend, spend, spend."

The white working class is the constituency most likely to vote for Trump. An NBC/Wall Street Journal survey has him leading Hillary Clinton among non-college-educated whites 49-36 percent, a larger lead than among any other demographic.

But given how these voters perceive debt, that support may be more fragile than we think. As a businessman, Trump is known for not paying his debts to small vendors, who for the most part cannot afford to challenge his actions in court. He has repeatedly and intentionally failed to pay dishwashers, waiters, plumbers and even his own lawyers.

Over the last three decades, Trump was involved in more than 3,000 lawsuits, including cases where he drove small family firms out of business. Trump says he does not pay when the work does not meet his standards. If that is true, it means Trump is disastrously bad at choosing people who will do good work, which makes one wonder how he would go about hiring staff once in political office.

But everything indicates that Trump is lying on this point, and that refusing to pay his debts is simply a business strategy.

To many readers, not paying debts will seem like just one in the long string of Trump's transgressions — what's a few unpaid bills compared to saying he would ban Muslims from entering the country, or jokingly inviting Russia to meddle in American elections, or criticizing the family of a fallen soldier?

But white working-class voters in the Midwest may not see it that way. To them, paying what you owe is one of the central aspects of their identity as moral human beings. Ads in Midwestern swing states featuring the real people whom Trump has stiffed — working class people, exactly the ones whom these voters can identify with — could well prove effective.

Clinton's overall lead is so large at this point that she may be tempted to take it for granted. But attempts to turn Trump's core supporters against him could influence down-ballot races as well.

Trump will claim that he behaves no differently from other successful businessmen (the answer to those who say Trump is successful: Sure, until his next bankruptcy). But refusing to pay your debts is not standard practice in construction or any other industry in America. The stories of the people who lost their small businesses because of Trump would resonate emotionally, because they are a window into the nominee's values, and to how he would run the country: He would accumulate debt and threaten not to repay America's creditors. In a word, he would turn the United States into a "liberal" country, as our interviewees understand that term.

My colleague Steve Hoffman asked one of our respondents what single lesson she learned from her parents that influences how she sees the world now.

Her immediate response was the three words that should be the cornerstone for any anti-Trump efforts in the Midwest: "Pay your bills."

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Anger that produced Trump won't go away, even if he loses

By my scientific count, there are only two newspaper columnists in the known universe who have not already declared Donald Trump's presidential campaign dead and buried. One is me. Having mocked Trump for getting in a Twitter war with a Mexican narcotrafficker way back at the beginning of the campaign, only to see him shoot to the top of GOP polls, I long ago certified this campaign as too bat-guano-crazy to predict.

The other dissenter is the lethally blonde Ann Coulter, whose new book "In Trump We Trust" will be published Tuesday and, if history is any indication, will next be spotted on The New York Times best-seller list.

Coulter, an early and enthusiastic backer of Trump (he essentially adapted her book "Adios, America" as his campaign platform on immigration), has been warning that the polls were undercounting his supporters ever since he started out near the bottom of a 17-candidate Republican field.

And though Trump is trailing by an average of more than 5 percentage points in the Real Clear Politics survey of major opinion polls with about 75 days to go before the election, she is still convinced he's neck and neck with Hillary Clinton — maybe even ahead.

The main reason, she believes, is that Trump is going to be the biggest beneficiary ever of the so-called Bradley Effect, named for Tom Bradley, a black mayor of Los Angeles who lost the 1982 gubernatorial election in California despite a seven-point lead in the polls on the eve of voting.

Pollsters concluded that a lot of the people they interviewed didn't want to admit they were voting against a black candidate. The Bradley Effect — or, if you're a social scientist, "social desirability bias" — has since become a blanket term for voters who lie to pollsters for fear of violating political-correctness norms.

"Trump has endured $75 million in negative ads from his opponents, and the news media universally hate him," says Coulter. "A lot of people would rather admit to being Nazi war criminals than to say they're voting for Trump. But once they're inside the voting booth, it's private — no one will ever know they voted for him."

In fact, argues Coulter, a lot of Trump voters aren't even being contacted by pollsters, because they're so alienated from American politics that they aren't even registered voters — yet.

"In the past, that would be a real problem at this stage of the election," she says. "But now all these motor-voter laws have made it really easy to register, and you can do it really late. Thank you, Democrats! Democrats are about to learn what a 'petard' is."

Coulter's full-front-attack style is not everybody's cup of tea — even among those who share her conservative politics, there are plenty to whom it tastes more like hemlock. And like her other books, "In Trump We Trust" is sometimes scabrously funny, sometimes just scabrous. I'm sure I won't be the last person to laugh at a section on Jeb Bush titled "The Bush Family Collapses, A Nation Rejoices," or at her merciless lampooning of a talking-head Marco Rubio adviser attacking Trump on TV: "Can you think of a worse item to have on your resume than 'Rubio adviser'? How about, 'Fire marshal, The Hindenburg'?"

By GLENN GARVIN
Miami Herald

Glenn Garvin is a columnist for the Miami Herald*. Readers may email him at ggarvin@miamiherald.com*

Venomous punch lines aside, "In Trump We Trust" undeniably brims with insights into the candidate's appeal, particularly his lock-down-the-borders stance on immigration. His opponents and their courtiers among the chattering classes essentially tried to declare the discussion out of bounds by labeling it racist. Political reporters added that it was crazy, because nobody they knew was against immigration.

But as Coulter notes, Trump's candidacy took off precisely at the moment he pledged to build that "beautiful wall" on the Mexican border. Since then, even though he's spent little money on his campaign and shunned Washington's hordes of political consultants and their precious focus groups, Trump has become the top vote-getter of all time in Republican primaries.

Perhaps Coulter is wrong about the polls, and Trump will lose in November. But she is clearly correct when she says the lesson of his candidacy is that a lot of Americans are unhappy about immigration and refuse to allow the argument to be circumscribed on the grounds of political correctness.

Several recent polls show about three-fifths of Americans think the United States permits too much immigration. Donald Trump may go away, but the forces that produced him won't.

POEMS

Loss of power at the tower

By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

a casualty from a recent brown out in Manhattan
was temporary loss of power in the Trump Tower
darkness fell on toilet thrones very few have sat in
no hot water for a shave or a golden warm shower
there was little commotion in the posh guest quarters
out early the whirlybird with squirrelly turd on the trail
looking for spots to land far away from pesky reporters
and gullible groups to listen so the Donald won't fail
there's attempts to save power though in the Trumpmobile
you might see the veep nod Michael Pence at the wheel
cell phones used so much they always need a new battery
faux pas from falling Tweeter fawning and faux flattery
yes they do have an old emergency generator in Trump Tower
Its tired motor a candidate for rewiring its losing so much power

Big league big top big-time big loser

By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

The battered neo political pitchman struck out more times than Casey
new to the world of presidential elections he had done his best
his rhetoric unreal and ragged his arguments and sarcasm spacey
he readily accepted another man's Purple Heart for his own chest
the first part of his campaign he used the media didn't spend a dime
with nasty childish nicknames for opponents on both sides of the aisle
he cited his billionaire business acumen over and over Big Time
resting on Big League bankruptcy laurels with a smirk and smug smile
determined not to be a Big Loser he makes many a flip flop
there stands the ring master of the current campaign circus
underneath a conservative tea party tent Republican Big Top
the Prince of Pandering getting votes any way he can jerk us
campaign clowns will do flips, jump for joy and cheer non stop
underneath the Big Top if by a Big Miracle D.T. comes out on top

SENATOR

From Page 10

the choice voters will be making this November is how we want to engage in discourse, political and otherwise, in this country.

"No, ma'am," the Arizona senator said about Obama being an Arab. "He's a decent family man and citizen that I just happen to have disagreements with on fundamental issues, and that's what this campaign's all about."

Maybe Giuliani can Google that.

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Celebrating the glorious first 100 years of our national parks

At 250 feet, Temple IV of the ancient Maya city of Tikal in Guatemala was the tallest building in the Americas before skyscrapers arose in the late 1800s. The ancient city is intertwined with a verdant rainforest that gives it an unearthly beauty, so much so that "Star Wars Episode IV" used it as the backdrop for the landing of the Millennium Falcon at the rebel base.

Anything but unearthly, Tikal is the embodiment of national parks in the Anthropocene, or the period during which human activity has become a dominant influence on climate and the environment. More importantly, this national park of Guatemala and UNESCO World Heritage site is a global manifestation of the U.S. act that created the National Park System 100 years ago on Aug. 25 and the way it has inspired the establishment of national parks around the world.

What more can we say about the American national parks beyond Wallace Stegner's phrase: "the best idea we ever had?" A lot. This idea grew from the urge to preserve and conserve nature started by scientific explorers like Alexander von Humboldt, who influenced artists and writers like John Muir, who in turn influenced politicians like Theodore Roosevelt.

Today, the U.S. has 59 national parks that together are larger than the entire Maya world. Our national parks have in turn inspired the creation of thousands of parks and World Heritage sites around the globe. In fact, at least 100 countries now have national parks.

One of the imperfections of the overall movement to establish national parks was the notion of wilderness, that with these parks we are preserving something untouched by humanity and that we could preserve this virginity into the future. But scientists have long known that human impacts have muddied the notion of virgin wilderness.

For example, a good part of what American explorers called wilderness stripped of human impacts had previously been populated and farmed landscapes. Old World diseases had devastated native populations and ushered in the return of forests that explorers several generations later called wilderness. We still do not know the extent of these lost peoples and their humanized landscapes, but the more we look, the more our wild lands and national parks show a long-term hand of humanity.

By TIM BEACH
The Dallas Morning News

Tim Beach is the Centennial Professor of Geography and the Environment at The University of Texas at Austin. He wrote this for the Dallas Morning News*. Readers may email him at beacht@austin.utexas.edu*

This goes as well for our national parks in places we once thought were wild extremes. Places we now strive to explore: the rainforests of the Amazon that hide cities and farms, of Southeast Asia that surround iconic ruins like Angkor Wat, and of Central America where hundreds of cities are now part and parcel of the Maya forest. Once thought inimical to civilization, these tropical lands were homes to civilizations and intensive farming systems that flourished for hundreds of years against droughts, sea level rise and countless other hazards.

Some may fear that the general knowledge that wild lands were once tamer may provide arguments for more human degradation. But this notion only makes these lands more precious to humanity because they represent the deep interweaving of natural and human history in living museums.

Some, like the Maya buildings with their words carved into stones, are also national libraries where researchers uncover once lost writings every year. Our global parks, planted by America's best idea, represent the mindboggling, rich ecosystems of millions of species and their habitats and niches. Many also represent lost human histories.

More of these parks may provide answers to the most vexing problems of human interactions with nature to come, such as effective adaptations to past droughts, sea level rise and hurricanes. The scientific value of these parks alone should be reason to celebrate 100 years. They can act like a road map for humanity again in the crosshairs of myriad climate changes.

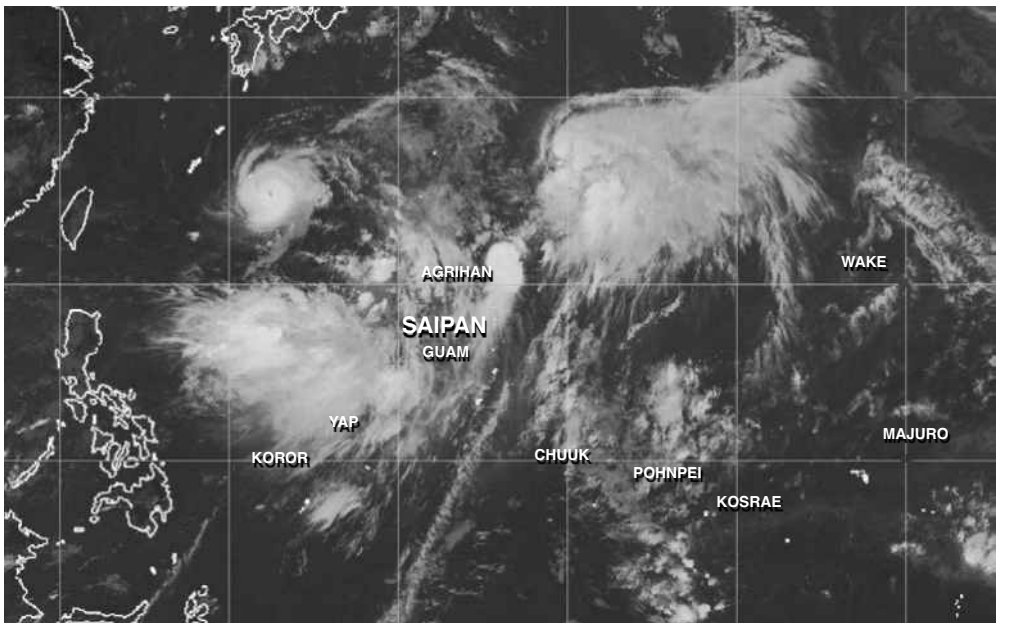
We should all celebrate the first century of the national parks for their beauty, scientific value and increasingly rich history of human interactions with the wild.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southwest winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:24 AM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2016

WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC BETWEEN EQUATOR AND 25N FROM 130E TO 180.

Fast moving Tropical Depression 14W is moving out of our area. The winds have already subsided in the forecast zones from Guam to Saipan. Waves will linger several more hours...so we have a high surf advisory until noon and a small craft advisory until 3 pm. After this we enter an extended period of light to gentle southwest flow well south of the monsoon trough as the action shifts north of the main islands. Will have to keep an eye on this as the monsoon trough is always a bit changeable, however for the next few days at least we can relax a bit. Seas could be as low as 3 to 5 feet on Thursday. The only fly in the ointment could be if some island convection manages to get going.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Morning clouds	80 / 87 °F
Palau	Morning clouds	81 / 87 °F
Yap	Partly sunny	80 / 87 °F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	81 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	78 / 88 °F
Kosrae	Morning clouds	83 / 87 °F
Majuro	Partly cloudy	82 / 86 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Morning clouds	55 / 62 °F
Beijing	Morning clouds	62 / 84 °F
Hong Kong	Morning clouds	79 / 90 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	74 / 83 °F
London	Partly cloudy	70 / 86 °F
Los Angeles	Partly sunny	65 / 80 °F
Manila	Mostly cloudy	80 / 87 °F
Melbourne	Morning clouds	42 / 53 °F
Miami	Morning clouds	80 / 89 °F
New York	Partly sunny	72 / 86 °F
Osaka	Partly cloudy	76 / 95 °F
Paris	Sunny	69 / 96 °F
Pusan	Morning clouds	76 / 91 °F
Rome	Sunny	65 / 92 °F
Salem	Sunny	60 / 96 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	56 / 67 °F
Seoul	Partly cloudy	73 / 90 °F
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	76 / 86 °F
Washington, DC	Morning clouds	67 / 88 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
12:06 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.91 Feet
7:19 AM	LOW TIDE	0.1 Feet
1:52 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.58 Feet
7:19 PM	LOW TIDE	0.94 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:04 AM	6:34 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	-	12:21 PM
Friday	12:13 AM	1:19 PM
Saturday	1:07 AM	2:17 PM
Sunday	2:03 AM	3:12 PM
Monday	2:59 AM	4:04 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
OZ6063	5:15pm	8:35pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ6053	10:35am	4:05pm	4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Rule proposed to enhance protections for Hawaiian spinner dolphins

NOAA Fisheries is proposing to enhance protections for Hawaiian spinner dolphins to prevent disturbance and harassment from dolphin-directed human activities. The proposed rule would prohibit swimming with and approaching a Hawaiian spinner dolphin within 50 yards by any means (vessel, person, or other object) and would be implemented within two nautical miles from shore of the Main Hawaiian Islands and in designated waters between Maui, Lanai, and Kahoolawe where spinner dolphins are found throughout the day.

Resident populations of Hawaiian spinner dolphins feed offshore throughout the night and return to Hawaii's coasts to rest during the day. Because Hawaiian spinner dolphins rest in Hawaii's sheltered bays and along its coastlines and are one of the most easily encountered cetaceans in the waters of the Main Hawaiian Islands, they are vulnerable to disturbance and harassment.

Dolphin-directed activities have grown dramatically in recent years, and the easily accessible Hawaiian spinner dolphins face heavy and increasing pressures from people seeking a dolphin experience. Chronic disturbance to resting activities can negatively affect the health and fitness of dolphins.

These regulations are designed to protect the health and sustainability of our resident spinner dolphin populations by reducing human activities that result in "take" of spinner dolphins. The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) prohibits the "take" of any marine mammals, including Hawaiian spinner dolphins. Take is defined as "to harass, hunt, capture, or kill" any marine mammal or attempt to do so. "Harass" is further defined by MMPA as any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance that has the potential to injure a marine mammal or stock in the wild, or potential to disturb a marine mammal or stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns. This includes but is not limited to migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering. Exceptions for taking marine mammals are made through a permit or authorization issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

NOAA Fisheries identified six situations in which being within 50-yards of a spinner dolphin may be necessary or unavoidable, and made exceptions to the prohibitions in these cases. These proposed exceptions include the following:

1. Persons who inadvertently come within 50 yards of a spinner dolphin, or who are approached by a Hawaiian spinner dolphin, provided they make no effort to engage or pursue the animals, and take immediate steps to move away from the animals.

2. Vessels that are underway and approached by a Hawaiian spinner dolphin provided they continue normal navigation and make no effort to engage or pursue the animals.

3. Vessels transiting to and from a port, harbor, or in a restricted channel when a 50-yard distance will not allow the vessel to maintain safe navigation.

4. Vessel operations necessary to avoid an imminent and serious threat.

5. Activities authorized through a permit or authorization issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service to take Hawaiian spinner dolphins.

6. Federal, state, and local government vessels when necessary in the course of performing official duties.

Although not proposed in the regulation, NOAA Fisheries is considering a future rulemaking that would involve closures to activities at certain times of day (6am and 3pm) within certain essential daytime habitats. These would be identified as time-area closures. The rule discusses four bays on the island of Hawaii and one bay on the island of Maui as potential areas in which to designate time-areas closures. NOAA Fisheries is requesting information and comments on the selection of areas, whether time-area closures are necessary in addition to approach regulations, and whether time-area closures, if implemented, should be voluntary or mandatory.

Five potential areas have been identified for time-area closures:

- Kealakekua Bay, Hawaii Island
- Honaunau Bay, Hawaii Island
- Kauhako Bay, Hawaii Island
- Makako Bay, Hawaii Island and
- La Perouse Bay, Maui

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The proposed rule prohibiting swimming with and approaching a Hawaiian spinner dolphin has been introduced by NOAA Fisheries.

The Proposed Rule will be published in the Federal Register on August 24, 2016, and the Notice of Availability of the accompanying draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be published in the Federal Register on Aug. 26, 2016. Following the publication, there will be a 60-day public comment period to voice opinions on the proposed rule. We expect the Final Rule to publish in the Federal Register in August 2017. The final EIS and Record of Decision is expected to be published in July 2017. A 30-day public review will follow that publication. The prohibitions would go into effect in September 2017.

» Public meetings scheduled throughout September to collect comments

NOAA will continue to work with communities to help them understand how the agency's proposal may affect them. Public meetings are scheduled for:

- Sept. 7 from 5:30pm to 10pm at Konawaena High School cafeteria in Kealakekua
- Sept. 8 from 5:30pm to 9:30pm at Kealakehe High School cafeteria in Kona
- Sept. 21 from 5:30pm to 9:30pm at Kauai High School cafeteria in Lihue
- Sept. 22 from 5:30pm to 9:30pm at Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Visitor Center in Kihei
- Sept. 27 from 5:30pm to 9:30pm at Roosevelt High School dining Hall in Honolulu
- Sept. 28 from 5:30pm to 9:30pm at Waianae High School cafeteria in Waianae

"NOAA is seeking your comments on our proposal, specifically comments that provide new data or identify questions or concerns that need addressing," said Michael Tosatto, Pacific Islands Regional Administrator of NOAA Fisheries. Comments must be received no later than 5pm on Oct. 23, 2016. You can provide comments, information or data to NOAA by electronic submission, mail, or during a public meeting. Typically, we would expect a final rule to publish within about a year of our proposed rule. ***(PR)***

Pacific women's network on violence against women agrees on work plan

SUVA, Fiji—The Pacific's seventh major regional meeting on ending violence against women concluded in Sigatoka, Fiji last Friday, Aug. 19, with participants making commitments and calling for urgent action on specific issues over the next two years.

At the conclusion of the meeting—organized every four years by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre and funded by Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—the participants agreed that because of the scale and breadth of the work that remains to be carried out in Pacific countries, the meeting should be held every two years instead of four.

The meeting canvassed a range of issues relating to violence against women and girls and heard from practitioners and policy-makers in the field, which included: increased services for survivors of violence against women and girls; improving access to justice through better working relationships with police forces and sensitive and urgent response from police personnel; increased and ongoing training in gender equality, violence against women and human rights for front-line health workers, and; urging Pacific governments to put global conventions on women and girls into practice.

The outcomes statement included an agreement to always keep women at the center of all prevention and response programs. For example, the preferred term is 'violence against women and girls' because it names the problem and is centered on women's experiences of violence.

Outcomes from the meeting included specific actions Network members could take to move the commitments forward, including in the areas of working with faith-based organization, women and girls with disabilities, sorcery-related violence, protection against violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity, culture and religion, perpetrator programs and male advocates for women's human rights.

The 7th Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women (PWNAVAW) Meeting took place from Aug. 12-19 at Warwick Resort with more than 60 participants working in the area of preventing and responding to violence against women and girls. The next meeting of the PWNAVAW is expected to be convened in August 2018.

Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as the FWCC's biggest and longest-running donor, provides funding support for the Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women meetings. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Papua New Guinean women's human rights defenders Mary Kini, left, Lily Be'soer, center, and Port Moresby magistrate John Kaumi during a panel on access to justice for women survivors of violence in PNG.

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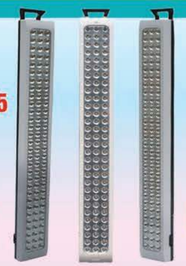

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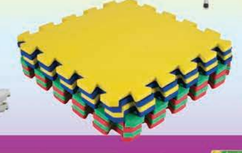

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Business

Some vacation spots quietly benefit as travelers avoid Zika

NEW YORK (AP)—With government officials now warning pregnant women to avoid Miami Beach in addition to Puerto Rico, some sun seekers are desperately scrambling for a Zika-free vacation.

And that has left other tourist destinations to capitalize—quietly.

Travel experts say families worried about Zika are now looking to Arizona and Southern California to get some sun, along with cooler weather locales such as New England and Canada.

The Zika virus is transmitted by mosquitoes or through sex with an infected person. In pregnant women, a Zika infection can cause severe birth defects, including microcephaly, where babies are born with a dangerously small head. In others, it can lead to Guillain-Barre, which can cause temporary paralysis and in rare instances, death. That was the case earlier this month of a man between 35 and 45 years old who died in Puerto Rico after being infected.

Given that background, many would-be vacationers don't want to take the risk.

Jen LeFante and her husband Chris are expecting their first child in March. The New Jersey couple had wanted to escape to Puerto Rico or the Florida Keys for some relaxation before the baby arrives.

"But it seems like every travel destination we picked is on the Zika list," she says.

Instead, they are doing a number of smaller, driving trips including ones to upstate New York and Vermont.

"I'd much rather be on a beach," LeFante says.

Bermuda has seen several groups move meetings and conventions there from Caribbean islands, according to Glenn Jones, director of public and stakeholder relations at the Bermuda Tourism Authority.

"That's been a welcome and unexpected boost to our business this summer," Jones says.

However, the island nation off the coast of the Carolinas has been careful about how it handles the situation. Educating tourists who ask about the absence of Zika is fine, but don't expect a marketing campaign around it.

China sets sights on new global export: nuclear energy

BEIJING (AP)—On a seaside field south of Shanghai, workers are constructing a nuclear reactor that is the flagship for Beijing's ambition to compete with the United States, France and Russia as an exporter of atomic power technology.

The Hualong One, developed by two state-owned companies, is one multibillion-dollar facet of the Communist Party's aspirations to transform China into a creator of profitable technology from mobile phones to genetics.

Still, experts say Beijing underestimates how tough it will be for its novice nuclear exporters to sell abroad. They face political hurdles, safety concerns and uncertain global demand following Japan's Fukushima disaster.

China's government-run nuclear industry is based on foreign technology but has spent two decades developing its own with help from Westinghouse Electric Co., France's Areva and EDF and other partners. A separate export initiative is based on an alliance between Westinghouse and a state-owned reactor developer.

The industry is growing fast, with 32 reactors in operation, 22 being built and more planned, according to the World Nuclear Association, an industry group. China accounted for eight of 10 reactors that started operation last year and six of eight construction starts.

Abroad, builders broke ground in Pakistan last year for a power plant using a Hualong One, supported by a $6.5 billion Chinese loan. Also last year, Argentina signed a contract to use the reactor in a $15 billion plant financed by Chinese banks.

Sales come with financing from state banks, a model that helped Chinese companies break into the market for building highways and other public works in Africa and the Middle East. State-owned companies also are lining up to invest in nuclear power plants in Britain and Romania.

"This is generating significant build-up of skills and industrial experience," said Mycle Schneider, a nuclear energy consultant in Paris, in an email.

Beer mega merger: what court ruling means for troubled deal

LONDON (AP)—A British court has ruled that two groups of shareholders in brewing company SABMiller should vote separately on the 79 billion pound ($104 million) takeover offer made by rival Anheuser-Busch InBev, effectively giving smaller investors an outside chance to derail the deal.

The decision Tuesday is seen as a concession to smaller shareholders who complained that their payout plummeted in relation to larger investors after the pound fell following Britain's vote to leave the European Union. While smaller shareholders will receive cash for their stakes, SABMiller's two biggest investors will get cash and euro-denominated shares that have appreciated since the deal was announced in November.

SABMiller's board has in principle accepted the deal, which would create a company controlling nearly a third of the global beer market.

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

AB InBev, the maker of Budweiser, Corona, and Stella Artois, is trying to buy SABMiller in a massive deal that would merge the world's two largest beer makers. The complicated takeover had to pass regulatory hurdles around the globe. But just as the deal was nearing completion, Britain voted to leave the EU.

Since then, AB InBev shares, which are priced in euros, have risen 3.2 percent and the pound has plunged against the European currency. That reduced the value of the cash-only offer compared with the cash-and-stock option tailored for two big shareholders—U.S. tobacco company Altria and BevCo, an investment vehicle of the Santo Domingo family, which together own 40 percent of SABMiller and want to remain shareholders of the new company.

Some smaller shareholders, like Aberdeen Asset Management, whose stake in SABMiller is just above one percent, argue that the offer undervalues SABMiller and favors the company's two biggest shareholders.

AB InBev sweetened its bid by one pound a share after the complaints, but smaller shareholders say it isn't enough.

Nation

Traffic fatalities continued to surge in first half of 2016

WASHINGTON (AP)—Traffic fatalities were up 9 percent in the first six months of this year compared with the same period last year, continuing a surge in deaths that began two years ago as the economy improved and travel picked up, according to preliminary estimates released Tuesday by the National Safety Council.

AP

In this April 28, 2016 file photo, a wrecker crew prepares to flip over a Ford Bronco that was involved in an accident in Brownsville, Texas.

An estimated 19,100 people were killed on U.S. roads from January through June, said the council, a congressionally chartered nonprofit that gets its data from state authorities. That's 18 percent more than two years ago at the six-month mark. About 2.2 million people also were seriously injured in the first half of this year.

The council estimates the cost of these deaths and injuries at about $205 billion.

At that rate, annual deaths could exceed 40,000 fatalities this year for the first time in nine years, the council said. More than 35,000 people were killed on U.S. roads last year, making it the deadliest driving year since 2008, when more than 37,000 were killed.

"Our complacency is killing us," said Deborah A.P. Hersman, the safety council's president and CEO. "Americans should demand change to prioritize safety actions and protect ourselves from one of the leading causes of preventable death."

The size of the increase in fatalities since 2014 "is really getting to the crisis level," said Jonathan Adkins, executive director of the Governors Highway Safety Association, which represents state highway safety offices.

In latest hedge, Trump says immigration laws can be softened

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Donald Trump suggested Tuesday that he is open to "softening" laws dealing with immigrants in the country illegally, the latest sign that the Republican presidential nominee is considering easing the hardline stance he has taken since the beginning of his campaign.

Trump, taping a town hall in Austin, Texas, for Fox News, was asked by moderator Sean Hannity if he would change current statutes to accommodate law-abiding citizens or longtime residents who have raised children in the United States.

"There certainly can be a softening because we're not looking to hurt people," Trump answered. "We want people—we have some great people in this country."

"We are going to follow the laws of this country," he added.

Trump has repeatedly declared that if elected, he would deport the 11 million people living in the U.S. illegally. But he has hedged his stance in recent days, and during the taping he ruminated aloud about the fairness of breaking up families. He even polled the audience about what they would do about the crucial policy.

"So you have somebody who's been in the country for 20 years, has done a great job, and everything else," Trump said. "Do we take him and the family and her and him or whatever and send him out?"

ACROSS THE NATION

Florida: 5 new Zika cases including 1 in the Tampa Bay area

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Florida Gov. Rick Scott on Tuesday announced a non-travel-related case of Zika in the Tampa Bay region. It's the first in the state outside the Miami area, but Scott said there wasn't enough evidence to date to declare a new zone of local transmission. If Department of Health officials conclude mosquitoes have transmitted the disease to people in the Tampa Bay area of Pinellas County, it would the third such area in the continental U.S. following clusters of cases traced to downtown Miami's Wynwood arts district and a touristy area of Miami Beach. "While this investigation is ongoing, DOH still believes that ongoing active transmissions are only occurring in the two previously identified areas in Wynwood and Miami Beach," Scott said in a statement.

Crews hauling away debris as Louisiana cleanup continues

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP)—Heavy trucks and their works crews have begun hauling away mounds of moldy carpet, warped flooring and water-damaged furniture as south Louisiana digs out from flooding the governor estimated Tuesday had wrecked more than 100,000 homes. Piles of debris stretched for miles in some parishes, with the inside of homes torn up and deposited on their front lawns, the mildewed stench wafting through neighborhood streets. "It's going to take months, if not over a year, to get the debris up," said Jr. Shelton, the mayor of Central, a suburb of Baton Rouge that is one of the hardest-hit communities from the catastrophic flooding. Of Central's 27,000 residents, Shelton said 25,000 of them were affected by the flooding. He said 90 percent of the homes had major damage, including many that are total losses. Shelton described entire subdivisions as "decimated."

Asia

Seoul: North Korea fires submarine-launched missile

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A North Korean ballistic missile fired from a submarine Wednesday flew about 500 kilometers (310 miles) in the longest flight by that type of weapon, Seoul officials said, a range that can place much of South Korea within its striking distance.

Seoul officials condemned the launch as an "armed protest" against the start of annual South Korean-U.S. military drills that North Korean calls an invasion rehearsal. The launch was also the latest in a series of missile, rocket and other weapon tests by North Korea, which is openly pushing to acquire a reliable weapon capable striking targets as far away as the continental U.S.

The missile fired from a submarine off the eastern North Korean coastal town of Sinpo reached into Japan's air defense identification zone, according to Seoul and Tokyo officials. The U.S. Strategic Command said it tracked the North Korean submarine launch of the presumed KN-11 missile into the Sea of Japan.

AP

A man watches a TV news program showing a file footage of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, at Seoul Railway station in Seoul, South Korea, Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016.

"This is an impermissible and outrageous act that represents a grave threat to the security of Japan and seriously undermines the peace and stability of the region," Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the launch showed an "improvement" in ability over previous similar missile tests.

1 killed, 29 wounded as 2 bombs hit southern Thailand

PATTANI, Thailand (AP)—Two bombs exploded near a hotel in insurgency-wracked southern Thailand, killing one employee and wounding 29 people, police and hospital officials said Wednesday.

The explosions occurred late Tuesday outside the Southern Hotel in Pattani, one of the biggest towns in a region where Muslim separatists have waged an insurgency since 2004 that has left more than 6,000 people dead.

The first bomb exploded in the hotel's car park, but caused no casualties, said police Lt. Sirisak Wungkulum. He said the second bomb planted in an Isuzu car went off 20 minutes later in front of the hotel, killing a 25-year-old woman who worked in the restaurant.

Hospital officials said 29 people were wounded.

The explosions damaged several rooms and other facilities, ignited fires, mangled motorcycles parked outside and blew away the facade.

It was the fourth car bombing this year in Thailand's south, the only Muslim area in the Buddhist majority country.

A wave of bombings on Aug. 11-12 in seven provinces, including tourist spots that have not been targeted previously, killed four people and wounded several dozen. The government has not specified who it believes was behind the attacks, but analysts strongly suspect they were carried out by southern separatists.

ASIAN BRIEFS

PH expects talks with China on sea feud this year

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte says he expects talks with China on a long-simmering territorial dispute to start possibly this year, and urged Beijing to allow Filipinos to fish at a disputed shoal. Duterte told reporters Tuesday that he prefers to engage China in a diplomatic dialogue rather than take a more aggressive stance that could anger Chinese officials into calling off possible talks. An international arbitration tribunal ruled last month that China's massive territorial claims in the South China Sea based on historical grounds were invalid based on a 1982 U.N. treaty. China has ignored the ruling, which was based on a Philippine complaint, but Duterte has not pressed for Beijing to comply and does not plan to raise the decision at a Southeast Asian summit next month.

British man accused in Bali police death confesses to fight

BALI, Indonesia (AP)—A British man arrested in the killing of a police officer on the tourist island of Bali confessed to bashing the Indonesian man with a beer bottle and leaving him unconscious, police said Tuesday. His lawyer said he didn't realize the officer would die. David Taylor and his Australian girlfriend, Sara Connor, were arrested Friday, two days after the bloodied body of traffic police officer Wayan Sudarsa was found on the beach outside the Pullman Hotel in Kuta, a popular tourist area. Connor's handbag was found nearby. The couple had been drinking beer on the beach in the hours before the late-night encounter.

Police: Man shouts 'Allahu akbar' in Australian knife attack

SYDNEY (AP)—Police say a French man shouting the Arabic phrase "Allahu akbar" stabbed a British woman to death and wounded two men in an attack at a hostel in northeast Australia. Queensland Police Service Deputy Commissioner Steve Gollschewski said on Wednesday that the 29-year-old suspect did not have any known links to the Islamic State group and appeared to have acted alone. Police were still investigating the motive behind the attack and will consider whether mental health issues or drug use was a factor. The attack took place on Tuesday night at a hostel in the town of Home Hill in northern Queensland. Police say a 21-year-old British woman was found dead at the scene and a 30-year-old British man was in critical condition.

World

Strong quake rattles central Italy: "The town isn't here"

ROME (AP)—A strong earthquake struck central Italy early Wednesday, levelling buildings in several towns as residents slept. One mayor reported a family of four trapped under the debris without signs of life and another said simply: "The town isn't here anymore."

The magnitude 6.1 quake struck at 3:36 a.m. and was felt across a broad swath of central Italy, including the capital Rome where residents felt a long swaying followed by aftershocks. First images of damage showed debris in the street and some collapsed buildings in towns and villages that dot much of the Umbrian countryside.

The hardest-hit towns were reported as Amatrice and Accumoli near Rieti, with residents running into the streets as aftershocks continued into the early morning hours. As daylight dawned, residents and civil protection workers began digging out with shovels and bulldozers as dazed residents huddled in the open streets.

The European Mediterranean Seismological Center put the magnitude at 6.1. The U.S. Geological Survey put the magnitude at 6.2 with the epicenter at Norcia, about 170 kilometers (105 miles) northeast of Rome, and with a relatively shallow depth of 10 kilometers (6 miles).

The mayor of the quake-hit town of Accumoli, Stefano Petrucci, said a family of four had been located under the debris of a collapsed building but there were no signs of life.

"There are deaths,"he told state-run RaiNews24.

The mayor of Amatrice near Rieti, Sergio Pirozzi, told state-run RAI radio and Sky TG24 that residents were buried under collapsed buildings, that the lights had gone out and that heavy equipment was needed to clear streets clogged with debris.

"The town isn't here anymore," he said.

The office of Premier Matteo Renzi tweeted that heavy equipment was on its way.

In 2009, a 6.3-magnitude earthquake struck in the same region and killed more than 300 people. The earlier earthquake struck L'Aquila in central Italy, about 90 kilometers (55 miles) south of the latest quake.

A 1997 quake killed a dozen people in the area and severely damaged one of the jewels of Umbria, the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, filled with Giotto frescoes. The Franciscan friars who are the custodians of the basilica reported no immediate damage from Wednesday's temblor.

Turkey launches operation to free IS-held Syrian town

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Turkey's military and the U.S.-backed coalition forces on Wednesday launched an operation to clear a Syrian border town from Islamic State militants, Turkey's prime minister's office said.

The state-run Anadolu Agency said the operation, which began hours after Turkey indicated it would step up its engagement in Syria, began at 4 a.m. with Turkish artillery launching intense fire on Jarablus from the Turkish town of Karkamis, followed by Turkish warplanes bombing IS targets in the town.

Haber Turk television, citing unnamed military sources, said a ground offensive has not started.

The Anadolu Agency said the operation aims to clear Turkey's border of "terror organizations" and increase border security. It said the aim also is to "prioritize and support" Syria's territorial integrity, prevent a new refugee wave and provide humanitarian aid in the region.

The operation was launched hours before U.S. Vice President Joe Biden was due in Ankara for talks that include developments in Syria.

The prime minister's office said a border area in Turkey had been declared a s"pecial security zone," and asked journalists not to try access it, citing safety concerns and threats posed by the IS.

On Tuesday, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlet Cavusolgu pledged "every kind" of support for operations against IS along a 100-kilometer (62-mile) stretch of Syrian frontier, putting the NATO member on track for a confrontation with U.S.-backed Kurdish fighters in Syria, who have been the most effective force against IS and who are eyeing the same territory.

"It is important that the terror organizations are cleansed from the region," Cavusolgu said in a joint news conference with his Hungarian counterpart.

Sudan says it has South Sudan's former rebel leader who fled

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP)—South Sudan's former rebel leader and vice president who fled the country last week has re-emerged in neighboring Sudan, which announced Tuesday that he had needed "urgent medical attention." Riek Machar's whereabouts had been largely unknown for weeks, leaving an already fragile peace deal in limbo.

Machar's condition was now stable, and he will stay "until he leaves the country for a destination of his choice to complete his medical treatment," Sudan government spokesman Ahmed Bilal Osman said in a statement carried by the SUNA news agency.

Machar fled South Sudan's capital last month amid renewed fighting, just months after he returned to the country to resume being vice president under a peace deal signed last year under international pressure to end a civil war.

Many of his bodyguards were shot dead in the July fighting that erupted outside the presidential compound where Machar and former rival President Salva Kiir were meeting on recent tensions.

His absence further weakened the peace deal, with Kiir quickly replacing Machar as vice president in a contested move.

A spokesman for Machar, James Gatdet Gak, confirmed via social media that Machar was in Khartoum and suffered from "exhaustion and a swollen leg," and he thanked the Sudanese government for the medical care.

Osman, the government spokesman, said Sudan had recently accepted Machar for "purely humanitarian reasons" and promptly notified neighboring South Sudan's government. He did not say how or when Machar had arrived.

Focus

Many donors to Clinton Foundation met with her at State

WASHINGTON (AP)—More than half the people outside the government who met with Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state gave money—either personally or through companies or groups—to the Clinton Foundation. It's an extraordinary proportion indicating her possible ethics challenges if elected president.

At least 85 of 154 people from private interests who met or had phone conversations scheduled with Clinton while she led the State Department donated to her family charity or pledged commitments to its international programs, according to a review of State Department calendars released so far to The Associated Press. Combined, the 85 donors contributed as much as $156 million. At least 40 donated more than $100,000 each, and 20 gave more than $1 million.

Donors who were granted time with Clinton included an internationally known economist who asked for her help as the Bangladesh government pressured him to resign from a nonprofit bank he ran; a Wall Street executive who sought Clinton's help with a visa problem; and Estee Lauder executives who were listed as meeting with Clinton while her department worked with the firm's corporate charity to counter gender-based violence in South Africa.

The meetings between the Democratic presidential nominee and foundation donors do not appear to violate legal agreements Clinton and former president Bill Clinton signed before she joined the State Department in 2009. But the frequency of the overlaps shows the intermingling of access and donations, and fuels perceptions that giving the foundation money was a price of admission for face time with Clinton. Her calendars and emails released as recently as this week describe scores of contacts she and her top aides had with foundation donors.

The AP's findings represent the first systematic effort to calculate the scope of the intersecting interests of Clinton Foundation donors and people who met personally with Clinton or spoke to her by phone about their needs.

The 154 did not include U.S. federal employees or foreign government representatives. Clinton met with representatives of at least 16 foreign governments that donated as much as $170 million to the Clinton charity, but they were not included in AP's calculations because such meetings would presumably have been part of her diplomatic duties.

Clinton's campaign said the AP analysis was flawed because it did not include in its calculations meetings with foreign diplomats or U.S. government officials, and the meetings AP examined covered only the first half of Clinton's tenure as secretary of state.

"It is outrageous to misrepresent Secretary Clinton's basis for meeting with these individuals," spokesman Brian Fallon said. He called it "a distorted portrayal of how often she crossed paths with individuals connected to charitable donations to the Clinton Foundation."

In this Aug. 16, 2016 file photo, Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks in Philadelphia. AP

Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump fiercely criticized the links between the Clinton Foundation and the State Department, saying his general election opponent had delivered "lie after lie after lie."

"Hillary Clinton is totally unfit to hold public office," he said at a rally Tuesday night in Austin, Texas. "It is impossible to figure out where the Clinton Foundation ends and the State Department begins. It is now abundantly clear that the Clintons set up a business to profit from public office."

Last week, the Clinton Foundation moved to head off ethics concerns about future donations by announcing changes planned if Clinton is elected.

On Monday, Bill Clinton said in a statement that if his wife were to win, he would step down from the foundation's board and stop all fundraising for it. The foundation would also accept donations only from U.S. citizens and what it described as independent philanthropies, while no longer taking gifts from foreign groups, U.S. companies or corporate charities. Clinton said the foundation would no longer hold annual meetings of its international aid program, the Clinton Global Initiative, and it would spin off its foreign-based programs to other charities.

Those planned changes would not affect more than 6,000 donors who have already provided the Clinton charity with more than $2 billion in funding since its creation in 2000.

"There's a lot of potential conflicts and a lot of potential problems," said Douglas White, an expert on nonprofits who previously directed Columbia University's graduate fundraising management program. "The point is, she can't just walk away from these 6,000 donors."

Former senior White House ethics officials said a Clinton administration would have to take careful steps to ensure that past foundation donors would not have the same access as she allowed at the State Department.

"If Secretary Clinton puts the right people in and she's tough about it and has the right procedures in place and sends a message consistent with a strong commitment to ethics, it can be done," said Norman L. Eisen, who was President Barack Obama's top ethics counsel and later worked for Clinton as ambassador to the Czech Republic.

Eisen, now a governance studies fellow at the Brookings Institution, said that at a minimum, Clinton should retain the Obama administration's current ethics commitments and oversight, which include lobbying restrictions and other rules. Richard Painter, a former ethics adviser to President George W. Bush and currently a University of Minnesota law school professor, said Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton should remove themselves completely from foundation leadership roles, but he added that potential conflicts would shadow any policy decision affecting past donors.

Fallon did not respond to the AP's questions about Clinton transition plans regarding ethics, but said in a statement the standard set by the Clinton Foundation's ethics restrictions was "unprecedented, even if it may never satisfy some critics."

State Department officials have said they are not aware of any agency actions influenced by the Clinton Foundation. State Department spokesman Mark Toner said Tuesday night that there are no prohibitions against agency contacts with "political campaigns, nonprofits or foundations—including the Clinton Foundation." He added that "meeting requests, recommendations and proposals come to the department through a variety of channels, both formal and informal."

Some of Clinton's most influential visitors donated millions to the Clinton Foundation and to her and her husband's political coffers. They are among scores of Clinton visitors and phone contacts in her official calendar turned over by the State Department to AP last year and in more-detailed planning schedules that so far have covered about half her four-year tenure. The AP sought Clinton's calendar and schedules three years ago, but delays led the AP to sue the State Department last year in federal court for those materials and other records.

S. Daniel Abraham, whose name also was included in emails released by the State Department as part of another lawsuit, is a Clinton fundraising bundler who was listed in Clinton's planners for eight meetings with her at various times. A billionaire behind the Slim-Fast diet and founder of the Center for Middle East Peace, Abraham told the AP last year his talks with Clinton concerned Mideast issues.

Big Clinton Foundation donors with no history of political giving to the Clintons also met or talked by phone with Hillary Clinton and top aides, AP's review showed.

Muhammad Yunus, a Bangladeshi economist who won the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize for pioneering low-interest "microcredit" for poor business owners, met with Clinton three times and talked with her by phone during a period when Bangladeshi government authorities investigated his oversight of a nonprofit bank and ultimately pressured him to resign from the bank's board. Throughout the process, he pleaded for help in messages routed to Clinton, and she ordered aides to find ways to assist him.

American affiliates of his nonprofit Grameen Bank had been working with the Clinton Foundation's Clinton Global Initiative programs as early as 2005, pledging millions of dollars in microloans for the poor. Grameen America, the bank's nonprofit U.S. flagship, which Yunus chairs, has given between $100,000 and $250,000 to the foundation—a figure that bank spokeswoman Becky Asch said reflects the institution's annual fees to attend CGI meetings. Another Grameen arm chaired by Yunus, Grameen Research, has donated between $25,000 and $50,000.

As a U.S. senator from New York, Clinton, as well as then-Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry and two other senators in 2007 sponsored a bill to award a congressional gold medal to Yunus. He got one but not until 2010, a year after Obama awarded him a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Yunus first met with Clinton in Washington in April 2009. That was followed six months later by an announcement by USAID, the State Department's foreign aid arm, that it was partnering with the Grameen Foundation, a nonprofit charity run by Yunus, in a $162 million commitment to extend its microfinance concept abroad. USAID also began providing loans and grants to the Grameen Foundation, totaling $2.2 million over Clinton's tenure.

By September 2009, Yunus began complaining to Clinton's top aides about what he perceived as poor treatment by Bangladesh's government. His bank was accused of financial mismanagement of Norwegian government aid money—a charge that Norway later dismissed as baseless. But Yunus told Melanne Verveer, a long-time Clinton aide who was an ambassador-at-large for global women's issues, that Bangladesh officials refused to meet with him and asked the State Department for help in pressing his case.

"Please see if the issues of Grameen Bank can be raised in a friendly way," he asked Verveer. Yunus sent "regards to H" and cited an upcoming Clinton Global Initiative event he planned to attend.

Clinton ordered an aide: "Give to EAP rep," referring the problem to the agency's top east Asia expert.

Yunus continued writing to Verveer as pressure mounted on his bank. In December 2010, responding to a news report that Bangladesh's prime minister was urging an investigation of Grameen Bank, Clinton told Verveer that she wanted to discuss the matter with her East Asia expert "ASAP."

Clinton called Yunus in March 2011 after the Bangladesh government opened an inquiry into his oversight of Grameen Bank. Yunus had told Verveer by email that "the situation does not allow me to leave the country." By mid-May, the Bangladesh government had forced Yunus to step down from the bank's board. Yunus sent Clinton a copy of his resignation letter. In a separate

See DONORS on Page 19

Environment

California lags on projects to protect wildlife at Salton Sea, officials say

By LOUIS SAHAGUN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—The Salton Sea is in big trouble and plodding California officials are to blame, local authorities and environmentalists say.

The California Legislature appropriated money to start designing projects to restore wildlife habitat and control dust at the steadily receding salt lake in 2010.

But lawmakers did not approve funding to actually begin construction on those conservation efforts until June of this year, when they included $80.5 million in the state budget for a few modest habitat projects scheduled for sometime next year, state officials said. Those projects comprise the first phase of a proposed long-term Salton Sea restoration effort estimated to cost about $3 billion.

In the meantime, critics say, record-high salinity levels, die-offs of perch-like fish called tilapia, fewer birds and a "bathtub ring" of dusty playas stand as ecological emblems of what has not been accomplished.

"The state has been dallying," said Timothy Bradley, a professor of ecology and director of the University of California, Irvine's Salton Sea Initiative. "And it would be unconscionable if it does not now shift into a very high speed to get something done."

Gazing at a squadron of brown pelicans gliding over the lake's hyper-saline waters, Valerie Simon, Salton Sea program manager at the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, offered a similar view. "If I was queen for a day," she said, "I'd make restoring this once magical place a top priority."

The Salton Sea was created in 1905, when the Colorado River broke through a silt-laden canal and roared unimpeded for two years into a basin near Brawley known as the Salton Sink. It grew into a 360-square-mile lake straddling Riverside and Imperial counties, about 150 miles south of Los Angeles. Fishermen flocked to its shores, and the lake and the surrounding area became habitat for more than 400 species of birds — half the entire number of species to be found nationwide.

TNS

In some places, the Salton Sea's receding waterline has uncovered thermal fields studded with bioling mud pots spewing clouds of steam and sulfur dioxide gas.

One of the most important wetlands along the Pacific Flyway, the Salton Sea supports nearly 90 percent of its American white pelicans and 90 percent of its eared grebes.

Disputes with the state over the Salton Sea's deteriorating environmental conditions began in 2003, when the Legislature promised to slow the shrinking of the lake. The promise was made as part of a successful effort to persuade the Imperial Irrigation District to sell some of its water to San Diego.

Under the 2003 agreement, the district is required to send water into the sea until the end of 2017. Critics say that with the exception of three small habitat projects scheduled for construction next year, the state has failed to follow through on its promise.

California officials acknowledge that state conservation measures are behind schedule, but say permitting requirements, complex federal environmental protection laws, and haggling over engineering, contracts and funding are to blame for the delays.

"This work should have started years ago, so it's not unreasonable for people to be nervous," said Bruce Wilcox, who Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown appointed in 2015 as assistant secretary for Salton Sea policy at the California Natural Resources Agency to expedite restoration efforts. "But we are now moving forward as fast as we can on restoration projects because they are critical."

Those projects include a $3.5 million plan to restore 420 acres of Red Hill Bay on the southeastern shore of the Salton Sea, and a $30 million proposal to create a nearby network of estuaries to compensate for some of the fish and wildlife habitat that is being lost as the Salton Sea recedes and becomes more salty.

"Of course, we'll need more funding to finish the rest of the program," Wilcox said.

In 2010, salinity levels at the Salton Sea were about 50 parts per thousand parts of water, federal reclamation authorities said. Today, they are about 58.3 parts per thousand. By comparison, the salinity level of the Pacific Ocean is about 35 parts per thousand.

Over the last five years, expanses of dry lake bed 2 miles wide have replaced shoreline where fishing enthusiasts once caught croaker, corvina and sargo. Today, the only fish in the Salton Sea are inch-long desert pupfish and tilapia, a tropical species that has somehow managed to adjust to salinity levels that should be lethal.

In some places, the receding waterline has uncovered thermal fields studded with boiling mud pots spewing clouds of steam and sulfur dioxide gas that smells like rotten eggs.

A thin sheet of water on the east side of the sea's Mullet Island recently evaporated, allowing coyotes and raccoons to raid the breeding grounds of tens of thousands of cormorants, pelicans and herons.

Chris Shoneman, manager at the Sonny Bono National Wildlife Refuge Complex at the southern end of the 35-mile-long lake, gunned the engine of his flat-bottomed airboat on a recent weekday and skimmed along the waterline, taking stock of bird populations that he said were "unusually small."

He attributed the dearth of birds to a die-off of tilapia this year. After the die-off, he said, "grebes started washing up on shore. Necropsies determined that they had died of starvation."

"The thousands of Caspian terns and Western grebes we normally get around this time of year," he added, "are no where to be seen."

"The state's own scary predictions of more than a decade ago have come to pass — but its conservation projects are still not up and running," said Michael Cohen, co-author of a 2014 Pacific Institute report titled "Hazard's Toll: The Costs of Inaction at the Salton Sea." "Our patience with the state is largely evaporated."

Antonio Ortega, spokesman for the Imperial Irrigation District, would not argue with any of that.

"By failing to make serious investments," he said, "or even starting construction on its restoration projects, the state is sending out a risky message: 'Maybe the threat isn't as bad as we thought it was.'"

DONORS

From Page 18

note to Verveer, Clinton wrote: "Sad indeed."

Clinton met with Yunus a second time in Washington in August 2011 and again in the Bangladesh capital of Dhaka in May 2012. Clinton's arrival in Bangladesh came after Bangladesh authorities moved to seize control of Grameen Bank's effort to find new leaders. Speaking to a town hall audience, Clinton warned the Bangladesh government that "we do not want to see any action taken that would in any way undermine or interfere in the operations of the Grameen Bank."

Grameen America's Asch referred other questions about Yunus to his office, but he had not responded by Tuesday.

In another case, Clinton was host at a September 2009 breakfast meeting at the New York Stock Exchange that listed Blackstone Group chairman Stephen Schwarzman as one of the attendees. Schwarzman's firm is a major Clinton Foundation donor, but he personally donates heavily to GOP candidates and causes. One day after the breakfast, according to Clinton emails, the State Department was working on a visa issue at Schwarzman's request. In December that same year, Schwarzman's wife, Christine, sat at Clinton's table during the Kennedy Center Honors. Clinton also introduced Schwarzman, then chairman of the Kennedy Center, before he spoke.

Blackstone donated between $250,000 and $500,000 to the Clinton Foundation. Eight Blackstone executives also gave between $375,000 and $800,000 to the foundation. And Blackstone's charitable arm has pledged millions of dollars in commitments to three Clinton Global aid projects ranging from the U.S. to the Mideast. Blackstone officials did not make Schwarzman available for comment.

Clinton also met in June 2011 with Nancy Mahon of the MAC AIDS, the charitable arm of MAC Cosmetics, which is owned by Estee Lauder. The meeting occurred before an announcement about a State Department partnership to raise money to finance AIDS education and prevention. The public-private partnership was formed to fight gender-based violence in South Africa, the State Department said at the time.

The MAC AIDS fund donated between $5 million and $10 million to the Clinton Foundation. In 2008, Mahon and the MAC AIDS fund made a three-year unspecified commitment to the Clinton Global Initiative. That same year, the fund partnered with two other organizations to beef up a USAID program in Malawi and Ghana. And in 2011, the fund was one of eight organizations to pledge a total of $2 million over a three-year period to help girls in southern Africa. The fund has not made a commitment to CGI since 2011.

Estee Lauder executive Fabrizio Freda also met with Clinton at the same Wall Street event attended by Schwarzman. Later that month, Freda was on a list of attendees for a meeting between Clinton and a U.S.-China trade group. Estee Lauder has given between $100,000 and $250,000 to the Clinton Foundation. The company made a commitment to CGI in 2013 with four other organizations to help survivors of sexual slavery in Cambodia.

MAC AIDS officials did not make Mahon available to AP for comment.

When Clinton appeared before the U.S. Senate in early 2009 for her confirmation hearing as secretary of state, then- Sen. Richard Lugar, a Republican from Indiana, questioned her at length about the foundation and potential conflicts of interest. His concerns were focused on foreign government donations, mostly to CGI. Lugar wanted more transparency than was ultimately agreed upon between the foundation and Obama's transition team.

Now, Lugar hopes Hillary and Bill Clinton make a clean break from the foundation.

"The Clintons, as they approach the presidency, if they are successful, will have to work with their attorneys to make certain that rules of the road are drawn up to give confidence to them and the American public that there will not be favoritism," Lugar said.

Life & Style

Cher insults Trump, with gusto, at Clinton fundraiser

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—Entertainer Cher unloaded a free-wheeling barrage of insults at Donald Trump during a private fundraiser for Hillary Clinton, comparing him to Hitler and saying he reminded her of the actress who played a murdering child in the film, "The Bad Seed."

Speaking Sunday in Provincetown, Massachusetts, the singer and actress gave a stinging—and at times profane—assessment of the Republican presidential nominee. Invoking "The Bad Seed" she said: "He's so Patty McCormack, consummate liar, doesn't care who she hurts, insane."

AP

Singer and actress Cher stops to talk to media as she leaves a fundraiser for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton at the Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum in Provincetown, Mass., Sunday, Aug. 21, 2016.

Before an enthusiastic crowd, Cher also said of Trump: "Do you remember 'Fun with Dick and Jane'? It's like racist fun with Dick and Jane."

She later added: "He doesn't mean we want to make America great again. He means we want to make America straight and white." She also said that she was reminded of "despots, you know Stalin and Hitler."

A video of Cher's remarks at the "LGBT summer celebration" was posted on Facebook and first reported by The New York Times.

Cher, who has been campaigning with Clinton, offered praise, though with a few caveats.

"She is shy and she's not the greatest speaker in the world," Cher said. "But this is what I believe and this is what I know. I know she will work every moment of every day."

After the event, Cher told reporters that Trump was "a racist, he's a misogynist, he's a horrible person."

A partial clip of Clinton's remarks was also posted on Facebook. Thanking Cher, Clinton said: "I can't tell you how excited I am to have Cher here."

A popular entertainer for decades, Cher came to fame in the 1960s as part of a singing duo with then-husband Sonny Bono. She has enjoyed success as a solo artist, with songs like "If I Could Turn Back Time" and "Believe," and has starred in movies, including "Moonstruck," ''Silkwood" and "Mermaids."

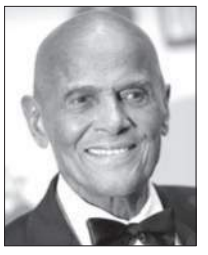
Harry Belafonte weighs in on Nate Parker and his new film

NEW YORK (AP)—Harry Belafonte says it's unfair that Nate Parker's shining moment with his film "The Birth of a Nation" is being overshadowed by a 17-year-old rape case. But the iconic performer and activist adds that he's not clear about the facts and wants to look more into the story that's been dominating entertainment headlines.

Belafonte said in an interview with The Associated Press on Tuesday that he saw Parker's upcoming Nat Turner slave rebellion drama and was wowed by the project. He called the film "a winner" and said 36-year-old Parker—who directed, wrote, produced and starred in the film—"a very bright young man."

But concerning the rape case, Belafonte, 89, said, "I don't even know what the facts are. I don't know what the truth is."

Yet he also questioned why the old case just happened to resurface ahead of the film's Oct. 7 release.



Belafonte

"It's interesting because it's coming out the same time the film's coming out. Of all the stories you can tell, why are you telling this story? And if he was somebody who had committed a crime and got away with it, but he faced the justice system," Belafonte said.

"The fact that (the system) may have screwed up, the fact that it didn't really take care of justice, the fact that he should have been punished or whatever is history," the singer added. "The fact is that he was confronted and then he did go through the process. Why are you bringing this up now? What has he done that requires this kind of animus?"

Parker was on the road to Oscar glory after "Birth" won key prizes at the Sundance Film Festival in January and was sold to Fox Searchlight for a record $17.5 million. Then earlier this month, the Hollywood trade press began to run stories about a 1999 rape allegation made against Parker when he was a student and wrestler at Penn State University.

Parker was acquitted, but his college roommate and "Birth" collaborator Jean Celestin was initially found guilty of sexual assault. It was later overturned when the accuser declined to testify for a retrial. The accuser, after several previous attempts, committed suicide in 2012.

"How do I put it in a perspective that helps me with greater clarity understand why this is the consequence of something he's done by getting this high profile, 'cause this film is touching a lot of consciousness. Why isn't that the story?" Belafonte asked.

"And is this going to be the price that young black women and men pay for making films of substance?" he continued. "Are they going to dig in and get dirt instead of fruit? What are we doing here? And where is the voice that defends him if he in fact is worthy of defending?"

Probe into Fetty Wap video shoot faults school principal

PATERSON, N.J. (AP)—An investigation into how rapper Fetty Wap was allowed to record a music video that included drug references and a pole dancer in his old New Jersey high school has concluded that the school's principal was solely responsible and should be disciplined, according to a published report.

Zatiti Moody was put on administrative leave in June after Paterson school officials began looking into the video filmed at Eastside High School.

District officials had a law firm investigate the matter, and NJ.com (http://bit.ly/2bN8jf3) obtained a copy of the report through a public records request. The investigation was conducted by John E. Wallace Jr., of the firm Brown & Connery.

The investigation found that Moody didn't follow all the requirements of the board's policies and regulations. It recommends that the district's superintendent impose "appropriate discipline."

A telephone number for Moody could not be located. His lawyer declined to comment on the report.

The report also stated that Fetty Wap's production company should have paid for using the facilities. The company gave $500 to the Eastside Booster Club, but not the school itself.

The video for the song "Wake Up" includes numerous drug references and features a scantily clad woman dancing on a pole inside a classroom. Numerous banners and posters seen in the video read, "Go Team Kush," which references a strain of marijuana.

Toward the end of the video, a woman presumed to be a teacher takes an apple from her desk and uses it as a bong.

Some community leaders questioned why a video they said glamorizes negative behaviors was allowed to be filmed at the school. District officials have said they don't endorse the content of the video, which was shot during non-instructional hours and didn't include students.

The report states that Moody had talked with Fetty Wap's manager following a concert in 2015, about the performer doing "positive things" at the school. Moody was later contacted by the production company and the manager about filming a video in the school.

Moody determined that filming the video would have educational value because the school had a video production class. He said he was unaware of the video's contents ahead of time, according to the report.

Fetty Wap, whose real name is Willie Maxwell, has previously apologized to Moody and anyone who felt "disrespected."

Nick Cannon begins freshman year at Howard University

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nick Cannon's got talent—and homework.

The host of "America's Got Talent" and "Wild 'n Out" has begun his freshman year at Howard University. Cannon posted photos on social media earlier this week of his first day on campus in Washington, D.C.

Cannon says in a statement that he "decided to obtain my first college degree from an institution that had a proven legacy of producing great minds."

A spokeswoman for Cannon declined to say what major or degree the 35-year-old actor-rapper is pursuing at Howard University.

Cannon was back on set of "America's Got Talent" on Tuesday.

AP

In this March 3, 2016 file photo, Nick Cannon arrives at the "America's Got Talent" Season 11 Red Carpet Kickoff at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium in Pasadena, Calif.

Joseph Fiennes cast in Hulu's take on 'The Handmaid's Tale'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Joseph Fiennes has been cast in Hulu's adaptation of Margaret Atwood's award-winning novel, "The Handmaid's Tale."

Hulu announced Tuesday that Fiennes will play Commander Fred Waterford opposite Elizabeth Moss in the miniseries, which is set to begin production this fall.

"The Handmaid's Tale" is a story about dystopian life in the dictatorship of Gilead, where women are treated as property of the state. Moss plays Offred, a woman forced into sexual slavery to help repopulate their community. Fiennes' character rules the house where Offred is a handmaid.

The 10-episode series is set to premiere next year.

'19 Kids and Counting' co-star pregnant for second time

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jessa and Ben Seewald will have another kid to count.

The former co-star of TLC's "19 Kids and Counting" and her husband announced Tuesday they are expecting a second child.

Jessa (Duggar) Seewald gave birth to her first son, Spurgeon, in November.

The couple says in a statement they "cannot wait to see the face of this sweet new baby (or babies!)"

Seewald was one of "19 Kids and Counting" on the TLC reality show that chronicled the personal life of Arkansas parents Jim Bob and Michelle Duggar. It was pulled from the network last year over revelations that Josh, oldest of the Duggar siblings, had molested four of his sisters and a baby sitter.

Jessa and Ben currently appear in TLC's "Counting On." The second season premieres Tuesday.

Burt Bacharach cancels 2 concerts to recover from broken arm

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Burt Bacharach is canceling two September concerts to recover from a broken arm.

A spokeswoman for the 88-year-old composer and conductor said Tuesday that Bacharach will skip scheduled performances on Sept. 3 in Curacao and Sept. 17 in Lancaster, California. Publicist Tina Brausam said Bacharach plans to resume his touring schedule in October.

She said she did not know how or when the six-time Grammy winner broke his arm.

Britney Spears raffles clothes for Louisiana flood victims

Pop star Britney Spears is giving the clothes off her back to raise money for the Red Cross to benefit victims of widespread flooding in her home state of Louisiana.

Spears, who's from Kentwood, tweeted out links Tuesday to a fundraising site that offers $10 raffle tickets to win an outfit from her upcoming performance on Sunday's MTV Video Music Awards or a trip to New York to see her at the show in person.

More than 115,000 people across south Louisiana have signed up for federal disaster assistance after the catastrophic flooding that began Aug. 12. At least 13 deaths have been attributed to the flooding, and more than 60,000 homes were damaged by the storm. ***(AP)***

AP

In this May 22, 2016 file photo, Britney Spears performs at the Billboard Music Awards at the T-Mobile Arena, in Las Vegas.

Dad dating ex-wife causes daughter to feel betrayed

DEAR ABBY: I have a complicated family situation. My dad was married to a woman named "Cynthia" for 16 years until they divorced. He met and married my mother the next year. My parents were married for 40 years, until Mom died of cancer a year ago. Since her death, I have gone with my dad to a few holiday events hosted at his other daughters' houses, where we saw them and Cynthia. Everyone was cordial and welcoming.

A few days ago, Dad told me that he and Cynthia are dating, and he asked me to wish them luck. My immediate reaction was "Why?!" I left immediately, and have ignored his phone calls ever since.

I cannot express how upset this made me. I realize he's a lonely old man who would like to maybe start dating again, but his EX-WIFE? It feels like a total betrayal of my mother and me, like we were only some sort of intermission from his first family.

There are so many reasons why this feels like a sad and terrible idea, up to and including the havoc it will wreak on all of his daughters if something goes wrong again. I feel like he hasn't taken into account anyone's feelings but his own.

Am I selfish to feel this way? Is there anything I can do to stop this dead in its tracks? I don't want to be the bad guy, but I will NEVER be OK with this.

"INTERMISSION" DAUGHTER

DEAR DAUGHTER: If you are never OK with this, you will punish only yourself. Your father's divorce from Cynthia appears to have been amicable. His attraction to her may have more to do with the fact that he is drawn to someone familiar than any lack of feeling for you and your mother.

Instead of punishing him by ignoring his calls, I urge you to talk to him. What he's doing isn't disrespectful. He has mourned your mother's death for a year. Let him find happiness if he can, because if you do, I predict that it will spill over into your own life.

DEAR ABBY: "Hiding My Smile in New Jersey" (Feb. 28) was embarrassed by the condition of her teeth, which she had neglected for years. Your advice to her/him was excellent, but I'd like to add one more suggestion:

Schools of dentistry often have programs in which care is offered to lower-income patients under a reduced-fee structure, based on the client's income. Care is provided by dental students under close supervision by their board-certified dental professors. Students participate as assistants in procedures prior to being allowed to perform these procedures. In the latter case, the senior dentist serves as the assistant (and guide).

PATRICIA IN KENTUCKY

DEAR PATRICIA: Thank you for offering that suggestion, one that was echoed by many readers who wrote to lend support to "Hiding." Some of them also advised looking into a company that provides credit to finance medical and dental work. Usually it's a no-interest loan for a certain period, which allows patients to pay over time without having to wait for their care. The dental care provider may be able to recommend one.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

DEAR ABBY

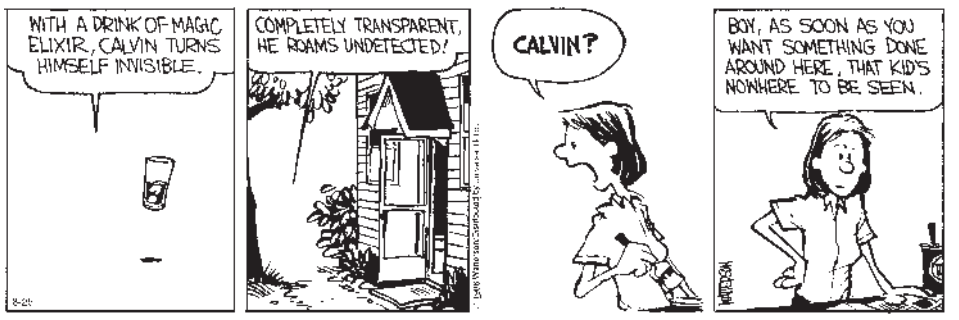
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

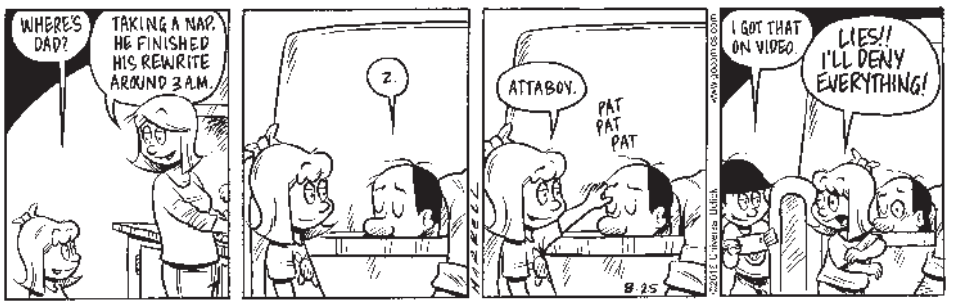

WITH A DRINK OF MAGIC ELIXIR, CALVIN TURNS HIMSELF INVISIBLE.
COMPLETELY TRANSPARENT, HE ROAMS UNDETECTED!
CALVIN?
BOY, AS SOON AS YOU WANT SOMETHING DONE AROUND HERE, THAT KID'S NOWHERE TO BE SEEN.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

"DEAR ENO, HOW ARE YOU?"...
"...WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO? TAKEN ANY FUN TRIPS LATELY? WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS THIS FALL?"...
"SINCERELY, THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY."
I WISH THEY'D JUST STICK WITH SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Tank filler
4 Panache
8 Meadows
12 Possess
13 O'Hara estate
14 Kick — a notch
15 Stone fruit center
17 Stow cargo
18 Japanese pond carp
19 Type of paint
21 Lyon language
24 Short trip
25 Prune
26 Blue
28 Rocker Frank
32 Slightly
34 Ran into
36 Conks out
37 Aquarium favorite
39 "Humbug!"
41 La-la lead-in
42 Egos' counterparts
44 Strengthen
46 Biblical cover-up?
50 Vitamin stat
51 "Peek-—!"
52 Relentless fighters
56 Chinese dynasty
57 Entreaty
58 Grant's foe
59 Jittery
60 Holler
61 Plant seeds

DOWN

1 Republicans, for short
2 Shock partner
3 Chaotic place
4 Morals
5 Napkin's place
6 Met melody
7 "You betcha!"
8 Frog's perch
9 And others (Lat.)
10 BMW rival
11 Detail, briefly
16 Swindle
20 Cartoonist Chast
21 Level
22 Judicial garb
23 Sandwich meat
27 Society newbie
29 Hidden hazards
30 Lima's land
31 Now, in a memo
33 Three-part work
35 Bar bill
38 Citrus drink
40 Tea type
43 Maudlin
45 College URL ender
46 Notoriety
47 Footnote abbr.
48 Cymbal's kin
49 Dossier
53 — Aviv
54 Summer sign
55 Stitch

Solution time: 25 mins.

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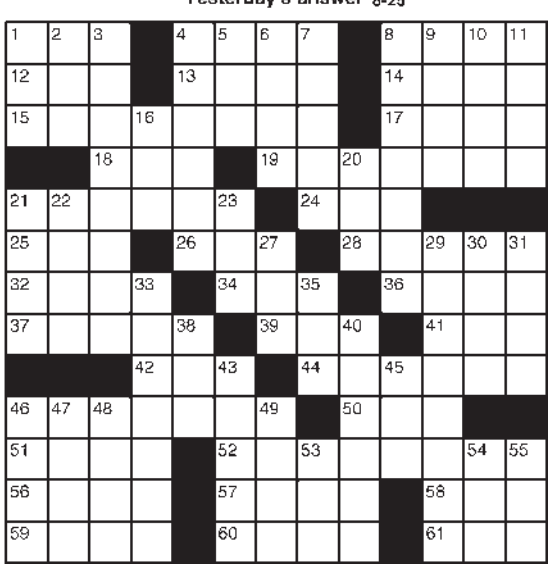
Yesterday's answer 8-25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Blake Lively, 29; Tim Burton, 58; Elvis Costello, 62; Sean Connery, 86.

Happy Birthday: Keep an open mind and a closed wallet. Try to avoid accumulating stuff you don't need. Abundance and indulgence will bring you down. A practical approach to handling money, health and legal matters will keep you from falling behind. Let your issues with others play out naturally. Stay focused on your own thing. Live life your own way. Your numbers are 2, 18, 24, 27, 32, 39, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Remember past difficulties before you put yourself in a similar situation. Do your best to move forward. Take care of your health and well-being. Unwarranted demands should be handled quickly. An investment will pay off. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You'll face opposition if you are too open regarding your plans. Work toward your goals secretively, and when you have everything in place, make a strategic move. Don't let emotional manipulation get in your way. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Emotions will swell up, causing you to make poor choices. Refuse to let anyone rope you into doing something you'll regret. Making a donation could cause you financial and personal stress. Deception and fraud is apparent. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Secrets will lead to suspicion. Keep your plans in the open and offer incentives to those whom you think might pose a problem. Delays while traveling can be expected. Leave plenty of time to reach your destination. Detours will be confusing. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take your rightful place at the front of the line. Offer your enthusiasm and expertise, and your popularity will grow. However, it's best not to promise anything that you might have difficulty delivering. Honesty and integrity are a must. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Keep your feelings to yourself and your emotions under control. Now is not the time to start an argument. Deception is apparent, along with ulterior motives. Step back, recalculate and prepare to take action. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Use your past experiences to deal with what's unfolding right in front of you. Be aggressive in your pursuits, and don't put up with any nonsense. You can bring about positive changes by taking initiative and making things happen. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't get emotional over money or legal matters. Stay on top of contract negotiations and don't allow anyone to slip something past you that will leave you falling short of your goal. Don't ignore health concerns. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Do your own thing. If you try to work alongside others, it may be difficult to bring your plans to completion. Emotional manipulation is apparent. Don't let anyone make you feel guilty for what you want to pursue. ✪✪✪

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	3		2	6	9		7	
		1				4		
7		5		4		1		9
				2				
8		4		5		3		2
		7				6		
	1		3	8	7		2	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	2	7	3	4	6	5	9	8
9	8	5	1	2	7	6	3	4
6	4	3	5	9	8	7	2	1
7	5	6	9	8	1	2	4	3
8	9	2	7	3	4	1	6	5
4	3	1	6	5	2	9	8	7
3	7	4	2	1	9	8	5	6
2	1	8	4	6	5	3	7	9
5	6	9	8	7	3	4	1	2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/24

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EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You may want to help, but be careful not to let anyone take advantage of you. Emotional manipulation may be used to get you involved in something you know little about. Back away from anyone who makes unfair demands. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Muster the courage to take on any pressing personal matters. If you don't like something, it's best to share your feelings and find out where you stand. Once you agree to compromise, solutions will fall into place. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Your temper will be tested and your motives will be questioned. Consider what is working in your life and what isn't, and make the adjustments necessary to get back on track. Giving a false impression could result in problems. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are emotional, compassionate and detailed. You are outspoken and smart.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

SCANDINAVIAN FJORDS Solution: 9 letters

S	O	M	S	E	H	C	N	A	R	B	O	D	O
C	L	O	N	G	C	B	O	M	U	N	S	N	R	R
E	D	W	O	R	R	A	N	U	L	E	E	O	O	C
N	E	E	U	Q	U	Y	T	A	I	G	S	R	J	H
I	N	I	S	U	O	S	K	R	I	D	U	W	F	A
C	S	V	F	N	T	E	R	T	R	E	E	A	E	R
E	L	A	F	E	S	E	S	O	B	N	S	Y	N	D
D	L	I	I	S	H	L	J	D	E	M	R	D	G	S
N	A	P	L	C	L	F	N	R	R	A	O	N	O	E
A	F	L	C	O	Y	U	U	T	G	R	N	A	S	G
L	R	A	R	O	S	T	E	P	E	K	D	L	E	A
D	E	T	R	E	A	L	N	E	N	S	L	E	A	L
R	T	E	L	N	N	S	B	E	D	R	O	C	K	L
O	A	A	N	I	A	R	T	T	D	E	D	I	S	I
N	W	U	N	E	D	E	W	S	Y	E	L	L	A	V

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Alesund, Bays, Bedrock, Bergen, Bodo, Branches, Cherries, Cliffs, Coasts, Cruise, Denmark, Iceland, Inlet, Lakes, Long, Naeroyfjord, Narrow, Nature, Nordland, Norway, Olden, Old Norse, Orchards, Plateau, Queen, Rauma, Scenic, Sea, Sided, Sognefjord, Steep, Sweden, Tour, Train, Trollstigen, UNESCO, Uses, Valleys, View, Villages, Waterfalls

Yesterday's Answer: Microscope

To purchase the **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2**, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Ultrasound/X-Ray Technician (01)

- At least five years experience or related filed
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology
- Must have over five years experience in electronic health and Practice partner records
- Licensed by the Medical Profession Licesing Board, CNMI
- Flexible with time schedule

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up applications at Health Professional Corporation dba Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit applications will be on September 09, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. For information you can call (670) 234-2901 ext. 128.

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.

Job Vacancy Announcement

HEMODIALYSIS TECHNICIAN (01)

- Certified from Junior College/Technician School in healthcare
- Attended a hemodialysis-training program
- Three years hemodialysis experienced-preferred
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Flexible with time schedule

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick-up applications at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on September 01, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call (670) 234-2905, ext. 128.

LSG Sky Chefs

LSG SKY CHEFS is looking to hire qualified U.S. workers for the following position:

(1) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Qualifications

- **High School Graduate with 2 years experience**
- **Computer literate: Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint plus**
- **Must be able to travel with a US passport**

Applications are available at the Main Office located on airport road, situated between American Red Cross Office and Historic Preservation Office, or send resume to rita.taitano@lsgskychefs.com.

WHATZIT Solution:
Whitewater rafting

Vacancy Announcement

(1) Auto Mechanic - Must have atleast 2 yrs. work related experience. Excellent diagnostic/repair skills of vehicle systems. High self motivation.

Submit Applications To:
AYD Services Inc. Tel.# 235-7011

Francisco C. Cabrera
dba Design Florist/Cabrera Funeral

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Flower Arranger

- Must have at least 3 years experience.
- Able to work flexible hours.

All interested applicant must apply in person.
Cabrera Center Bldg., Beach Road, Garapan

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY&NIGHT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT for MISA ENTERPRISES,INC.

General Maintenance (2): Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing, repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. All applicants must be of good health and good moral character must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of position listed above are required to have a minimum of 2-3 years of experience.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant MISA Bldg.1 in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

IT&E

Life In Motion

The following full-time position is available in our organization:

Account Executive

This position is responsible for maintaining the sales and distribution of prepaid calling cards, handsets, and accessories in the Guam/CNMI trade via independent Contractors, Direct Resellers, and Customer Service Outlets to ensure that all customers have access to purchase IT&E prepaid products (cards, handsets, equipment, and accessories) throughout the island.

More than 50% of the Account Executive's work time is selling outside of the Company.

Minimum qualifications:

- High School Diploma or equivalent;
- Three years experience in marketing and/or sales, preferably in the telecommunications industry; and a valid driver's license

Candidates Must Have:

1. Knowledge of:
   a. Sales and motivation techniques
   b. Telecommunications prepaid calling cards, handsets, accessories
   c. Telecommunication networks and processes
2. Skills in:
   a. Researching and analyzing market and sales trends
   b. Public speaking and marketing/sales presentations
   c. Use of personal computer hardware and Microsoft software programs
3. Ability to:
   a. Communicate clearly, concisely and accurately in English with all levels of staff and customers, both verbally and in writing

Interested candidates must apply online at our website, http://www.ite.net by August 26, 2016.

As an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, we afford equal opportunity to all applicants and employees for hire and promotion without regard to race, color, origin, gender, age, marital status, religion, veteran status, or disability or genetic information. We are also a Drug Free Workplace.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

(1) General Maintenance Worker
High school diploma or GED certificate or any combination of education, training, and experience which demonstrates ability to perform carpentry, plumbing, glass replacement, painting, masonry, grounds keeping, appliance repair, and electrical wiring; standard practices and use a variety of hand and power tools used in the maintenance and repair of building facilities, and cleaning and general maintenance work inside and outside facilities. Must be able to lift and move heavy supplies and objects, willing to work flexible hours which may include holidays and weekends.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, August 31, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN

A TanHoldings Company

Invites qualified US workers to apply for the following vacant positions:

DIRECTOR OF ROOMS (1)
Qualifications: Must have a degree or diploma in Hospitality, Tourism or Business Management. Minimum of two years similar work experience and preferably with two to four years experience as Front Office Manager, Executive Housekeeping Manager or Sales Manager in a hotel of significant volume. Must have at least 4 years of progressive experience in a management level in the Hospitality Industry. Must be able to multi-task and possess exceptional customer service and interpersonal skills. Must have excellent oral and written communication. Planning, problem-solving and financial reporting skills are essential. Must have the ability to manage employee performance and run a work team/division in a changing environment. The successful candidate will be responsible for the smooth and efficient running of all operational aspects of the Rooms Division of the Resort.

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING (1)
Qualifications: Ideally a degree in Engineering and Facility Management with extensive exposure to engineering principles and methods; trained or educated in engineering, facilities maintenance or in any related fields; with three to six years of similar experience/or training; or the equivalent combination of education and experience. Must have at least 4 years of senior management experience in the Hospitality Industry or in a facility management role. Must be able to effectively interact with people of diverse socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds. Must possess very good communication and project management skills. The successful candidate will oversee and manage the Resort facilities to ensure that operations and facilities are functioning smoothly and fully and that all guests, employees and associates are safe and secure and the Resort's assets are protected.

Application forms may be obtained at the HRD Office, South Wing, 2nd Floor. Interested applicants may also send their resumes to fiesta_hr@fiestasaipan.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than August 31, 2016. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa, Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

JVA for YANO Enterprises, Inc.
Dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

Cook (4): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Restaurant Waitress (2): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.

Applicants of positions listed above except Restaurant Waitress (3 months work experience) are required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Interested applicants must apply in person, applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.
Please no phone calls.

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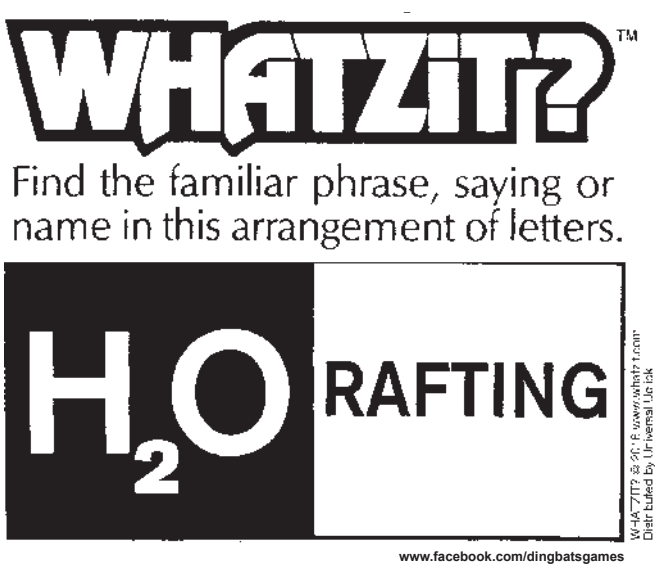
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Ware returns to practice, prepares for opener

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—Broncos linebacker DeMarcus Ware returned to practice on a limited basis Tuesday with the plan to have him ready for the season opener against Carolina.

Ware missed training camp with a back issue that kept him out of five games in 2015, but he said he feels much better than he did during Denver's 24-10 win over Carolina in the Super Bowl last February.

"I was probably playing at 70 percent in the Super Bowl, still trying to be a little bit effective. Now I feel like I'm 94 percent," he said, referring to his jersey number. "I feel great."

He took part in the walkthrough and drills at the beginning of Tuesday's practice before going in to work with strength and conditioning coach Luke Richesson. Ware came back and watched the rest of practice from the sidelines.

"He did all the individual, all the walkthrough and then he went with Luke for about 20 minutes and worked even harder," coach Gary Kubiak said. "DeMarcus is doing good, he's right on schedule to get to Carolina, which is where we're trying to go. You'll see him do a little more each day."

Ware is entering his 12th NFL season and third with Denver after starting his career with Dallas. He didn't miss a game in his first eight years with the Cowboys, and his 20 sacks in 2008 led the NFL. He has 134 1/2 career sacks, 17 1/2 with the Broncos.

Ware didn't take part in any of Denver's offseason workouts because of his back injury.

Ware said he isn't concerned about playing in the last two preseason games and that the goal is to have him at full strength for the Broncos' first game on Sept. 8. He acknowledged that while he feels great, he needs to get up to game speed.

"You have to get out there and do it," he said. "See the ball hiked by the quarterback, see the formations, see what everybody else is doing and getting that feel. I got some of that feel (Tuesday)."

Ware teamed with fellow linebacker Von Miller to anchor a stingy Denver defense last season that got better in the playoffs. The pair combined for 8 1/2 sacks in the Broncos' three postseason games. Ware had two in the win over the Panthers.

That was his last time on a football field until Tuesday.

"If we get to Carolina and he's playing, that's been the plan all along," Kubiak said. "But you're not going to see him play 60 plays."

Also Tuesday, quarterback Trevor Siemian didn't throw because of a sore right shoulder. Kubiak said Siemian is day to day but is still the starter for Saturday's preseason game against the Los Angeles Rams.

Siemian hurt his shoulder trying to tackle San Francisco's Ed Reid on an interception in Saturday's 31-24 preseason loss to the 49ers.

"I expect him to be there but it's going to be a day-to-day process," said Kubiak, who classified Siemian's injury as a bruise. "He's not used to tackling."

Siemian took part in some drills early and then handed the ball off in a scrimmage but stood by while Mark Sanchez and Paxton Lynch ran passing plays.

Lynch got a bulk of the reps, working with the first team and also running the scout team. He was picked off by cornerback Chris Harris Jr. and safety Darian Stewart on passes to the flat.

"The kid's out here running the Rams' offense, the Broncos' offense. It's very, very difficult," Kubiak said. "That's what gives you a chance to get better. You've got to wear a lot of hats being a young player on a team. You've got to come here on a given day and do a lot of things."

In Wisconsin, Aaron Rodgers is tempering his expectations for himself and the Green Bay offense Friday night.

All Rodgers is expecting is to finally play a game this preseason when the Packers visit the San Francisco 49ers.

"Whatever Mike wants me to do," Rodgers said Tuesday, referring to coach Mike McCarthy.

Though playing time for Green Bay's third of four preseason games won't be set until Wednesday, the goal according to McCarthy is to play Rodgers after the two-time MVP quarterback was a healthy scratch the previous two weeks.

"I think I'm going to play," Rodgers said after McCarthy put the team through its longest practice of training camp, nearly 2 hours, 45 minutes. "I'm not sure how long he wants me to play, but it'll be good to get out there and get some work with the guys."

Not that Rodgers needs much work as he enters his 12th NFL season and ninth as a starter.

Even with top receiver Jordy Nelson returning to the field in recent days after being out nearly a year with knee injuries, Rodgers hasn't felt a need to use the preseason games as an audition for the season. Rodgers said after only two weeks of camp in early August that he felt ready for the season, which opens Sept. 11 at the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Saying he expects Friday's exhibition to be his only game action of the preseason, Rodgers responded with "nothing" when asked what he needs to see in whatever playing time he gets.

And Rodgers also doesn't feel the offense, even with two notable additions, needs him on the field in a preseason game to sufficiently prepare for that season opener.

"But it'll be good to feel the tempo if I play—I'm expected to play," Rodgers said. "So if I play Friday, it'll be good to feel the tempo out there if we get some stuff in the no-huddle that we're used to."

The biggest priority for the 32-year-old Rodgers this summer has been his conditioning, which he says he's accomplished by running the offense at a high tempo in practice, and also with his on-field workouts before the preseason games he hasn't played.

"Actually, the stuff I'm doing on game day is probably more exertion than I would be doing on the field (in the game)," Rodgers said. "I've just got to be ready to go four quarters, and I'm confident that the work I've put in in the offseason and the work this past month in camp, I'll be ready to go once the season starts."

Though Nelson isn't expected to play Friday after being limited to individual work in practice this week, Rodgers will get a chance to work with newly chosen starting center JC Tretter. Likewise with veteran tight end Jared Cook, who the Packers signed in the offseason.

"It's going to be a good test just to see how he runs the offense, how he calls the plays, and for me to keep up," said Cook, an eight-year pro.

AP

In this Jan. 20, 2016, file photo, Denver Broncos outside linebacker DeMarcus Ware listens to question during news conference following NFL football practice in Englewood, Colo. Ware returned to practice on a limited basis Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2016, with the plan to have him ready for the season opener against Carolina. Ware missed training camp with a back issue that kept him out of five games in 2015 but said he feels much better than he did at the end of last season.

Rubio ready to mentor Kris Dunn in Minnesota

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—When Tom Thibodeau and Scott Layden were hired to take over the Minnesota Timberwolves, the expectation within in the organization and around the NBA was that they were coming in to make significant changes to a franchise with the longest-running playoff drought in the league.

Ricky Rubio heard his name floated in the constant trade rumor mill, never more than after the Wolves selected Providence's Kris Dunn, another point guard, with the fifth overall pick in the June draft.

Rubio remained quiet throughout the summer, putting all of his focus into grieving the loss of his mother and then joining his national team to prepare for the Olympics. Now that the Rio Games have concluded and Rubio has earned a bronze medal with Spain, he said he is looking forward to returning to Minnesota to work with Dunn and reiterated his desire to remain with the Timberwolves and help turn them into a winner.

"Really it's a challenge. When a young guy like him who has a lot of potential comes, I think we can really play together," Rubio told The Associated Press. "But if we don't (share the floor often), I can really help him."

Rubio said he was pleased by Thibodeau's hiring and believes the new coaching staff will make a big difference on a young, impressionable roster.

"I think we've got all the pieces together to make something happen," he said. "I'm really excited about the new coach and the new staff. They have a lot of years in their backpack and really can teach us how to reach the next level. I think we have the tools. We just have to put all them together."

Thibodeau has said he can see Dunn and Rubio playing together in certain lineups, and indications within the organization are that there are no current efforts to trade the veteran starter. One of the team's biggest weaknesses last season was the lack of a solid backup to Rubio at point guard, a setup that caused the Wolves to try to move Zach LaVine from his more natural shooting guard spot.

With Dunn in the mix, the Wolves have more depth now. And Rubio's presence assures the team doesn't have to force a rookie into a starting spot at one of the game's most important positions.

The 25-year-old Rubio is entering his sixth season and has yet to see the playoffs. He said that concerns him far more than his team investing a high lottery pick on a player at his position. Rubio believes he can serve as a mentor to Dunn and hopes the two can push each other to new heights.

"It's something that I've said since Day One." Rubio said. "I don't want to be in the newspaper. I just want to win. That's my goal. If I have to sacrifice something, I will to make this team a winning team."

That is the mentality he took on over the summer with Spain, a team filled with proud veterans who take lesser roles when they get together in the summer to compete in the Olympics.

"All we do (with Spain) when we click is put all the egos apart and really click as a team," Rubio said.

Dodgers beat Giants, extend NL West lead

AP
Los Angeles Dodgers' Rob Segedin, right, hits a solo home run off San Francisco Giants starting pitcher Madison Bumgarner, left, as catcher Buster Posey watches during the second inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2016, in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Corey Seager, Justin Turner and Adrian Gonzalez combined for eight hits and four RBI, and the Los Angeles Dodgers roughed up Madison Bumgarner again to beat the San Francisco Giants 9-5 on Tuesday night.

Rob Segedin and Andrew Toles each homered, and the banged-up Dodgers extended their NL West lead to two games on the same day they tied a major league record by placing their 27th player on the disabled list.

Segedin and Toles homered for the second straight game after getting their first big league homers in a 19-8 win over Cincinnati on Monday.

Segedin's wife, Robin, is expected to give birth to the couple's first child, a boy, at any time. Segedin started in right field on Tuesday and batted seventh. In the eighth inning, he was replaced in the outfield, ran to the dugout, got high-fives from his teammates and left for the hospital.

Bumgarner (12-8) is 0-2 with a 5.63 ERA in three starts against the Dodgers this season. Gonzalez hit a two-run single to center with the bases loaded against Bumgarner in the fifth to break a tie.

Kenley Jansen allowed a homer to Denard Span but still got his 36th save.

Seager, an MVP and Rookie of the Year candidate, extended his hitting streak to 14 games by going 3 for 4 with a walk and three runs scored. Gonzalez extended his hitting streak to 16 games.

The Dodgers and Giants still play eight more times this season, including the last three games of the regular season.

Bumgarner allowed five earned runs and nine hits in five innings. He struck out seven, but the fifth inning was his demise. The Giants bullpen, which has struggled of late, allowed four runs.

Yankees 5, Mariners 1

In Seattle, Jacoby Ellsbury hit a two-run homer and CC Sabathia pitched seven innings to win for the third time in two months, leading the New York Yankees over the Seattle Mariners.

Sabathia (8-10) was 2-6 with a 6.78 ERA in his previous 11 starts. He gave up a run in the third inning on a triple by Leonys Martin and single by Ketel Marte, but allowed just one single and his lone walk over the next four innings.

Red Sox 2, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Clay Buchholz pitched into the seventh inning, David Ortiz had a run-scoring single and the Boston Red Sox beat the Tampa Bay Rays to remain tied atop the AL East with Toronto.

Buchholz (5-9) allowed one run, five hits, two walks and struck out nine in 6 1/3 innings. Craig Kimbrel got the final three outs for his 23rd save.

Chris Archer (7-17) gave up two runs, five hits and threw 109 pitches in five innings for the Rays.

Blue Jays 7, Angels 2

In Toronto, Russell Martin had three hits and two RBI and R.A. Dickey pitched 6 2/3 innings for his first home win since July 10.

Martin had an RBI single in the first, drove in a run with a bases-loaded walk in the third, singled and scored in the fifth, and doubled over the head of center fielder Mike Trout in the seventh.

Michael Saunders hit his 21st home run, a solo shot off A.J. Achter in the eighth.

Royals 1, Marlins 0

In Miami, Yordano Ventura escaped two threats while pitching six innings, and Kansas City extended its winning streak to nine games.

Ventura (9-9) allowed six hits and one walk while striking out six. Three relievers closed out the win and extended the bullpen's streak of 32 consecutive shutout innings since Aug. 10. Kelvin Herrera pitched a perfect ninth for his eighth save.

Andrew Cashner (4-10) had his best outing in five starts for the Marlins.

Brewers 6, Rockies 4

In Milwaukee, Hernan Perez hit a two-run triple in the seventh inning, lifting Milwaukee over Colorado.

Perez hit a 0-2 pitch from Carlos Estevez into the right-field corner. Jonathan Villar scored from second and Ryan Braun from first when Daniel Descalso's cutoff throw to the plate was wide and got past catcher Nick Hundley to give Milwaukee a 5-4 lead.

Pirates 7, Astros 1

In Pittsburgh, Ivan Nova took a shutout into the ninth inning and finished with a six-hitter while Gregory Polanco hit two home runs.

Nova (10-6) struck out six, walked one and threw 69 of his 98 pitches for strikes while improving to 3-0 in four starts since being acquired from the New York Yankees in an Aug. 1 trade.

Reds 3, Rangers 0

In Cincinnati, Dan Straily extended his surge since the All-Star break by pitching six innings and Joey Votto drove in a pair of runs.

Straily (10-6) hasn't allowed more than two runs in any of his eight starts since the break, going 6-0. He gave up three singles and two walks.

Mets 7, Cardinals 4

In St. Louis, Wilmer Flores and Justin Ruggiano homered, Jose Reyes reached four base times and scored three runs, and Asdrubal Cabrera had three hits, drove in a run and scored once.

The offense helped Robert Gsellman (1-0) get the decision in his major league debut. Gsellman, pressed into action after starter Jonathon Niese left with an injury in the first inning, pitched 3 2/3 innings without allowing an earned run.

Tigers 8, Twins 3

In Minneapolis, Cameron Maybin drove in three runs, including a go-ahead two-run single in the sixth inning.

Anibal Sanchez (7-12) pitched seven innings to win a start on the road for the first time since the first week of the season, and the Tigers broke the game open in the seventh with soaring home runs by Erick Aybar and Victor Martinez.

Orioles 8, Nationals 1

In Baltimore, Kevin Gausman scattered six hits over six shutout innings, Adam Jones went 4 for 5 and Chris Davis hit his 30th home run for Baltimore.

Gausman (5-10) walked two, struck out two and permitted only one runner past second base.

The 25-year-old outpitched Nationals rookie Reynaldo Lopez, a 22-year-old making his fifth major league start.

White Sox 9, Phillies 1

In Chicago, Jose Abreu homered for a third straight game and Carlos Rodon threw 6 2/3 scoreless innings.

Abreu hit a two-run home run and Justin Morneau followed with a solo shot in the fifth off Jake Thompson (1-3), who gave up seven runs and eight hits in five innings.

Rodon (4-8) allowed three hits and has a 1.46 ERA in his past four starts after missing most of July with a sprained left wrist.

Rangers put Josh Hamilton on unconditional release waivers

CINCINNATI (AP)—The Texas Rangers placed Josh Hamilton on unconditional release waivers Tuesday, though they hope his surgically rebuilt left knee is healthy enough to allow him to try for a spot with the team next season.

Texas activated Hamilton off the 60-day disabled list and put him on waivers, a move that was expected. The 35-year-old outfielder had surgery on June 8 to reconstruct his ACL and repair cartilage damage. He's hoping to be ready for spring training.

It was Hamilton's third operation on the knee since September.

General manager Jon Daniels said during a conference call that the move had to be done before the end of August, otherwise Hamilton wouldn't have been able to play for the Rangers until after May 15 next year under Major League Baseball's contract rules.

Daniels had discussed the move with Hamilton, most recently on Tuesday.

"I'm hopeful that if he's healthy and our roster is in a spot where we'd still like to have him back, we can work it out," Daniels said. "But that's still a few steps down the line.

"We've talked about it for a period of time, and he understands why we did it."

Hamilton is still rehabilitating the knee. He's not expected to be cleared for workouts until December.

Hamilton was the first overall pick in the 1999 June draft, but drug addiction nearly ruined his career. He returned to baseball with the Cincinnati Reds in 2007 and showed the promise that was nearly destroyed by drugs, batting .292 in 90 games with 19 homers and 47 RBIs.

The Reds traded Hamilton to the Rangers after the 2007 season in a deal for pitcher Edinson Volquez. Hamilton was a five-time All-Star with the Rangers and the 2010 AL Most Valuable Player. He left as a free agent after the 2012 season and signed a five-year, $125 million deal with the Los Angeles Angels.

He was traded back to Texas last year, and the Angels agreed to pay the Rangers for all of his $24 million salary this season and $22 million of the $24 million he is due next year, the final year on his contract. He played in only 50 games last season, batting .253 with eight homers and 25 RBIs.

Hamilton opened this season on the DL recovering from knee surgery. During his first game of a rehab assignment, he felt discomfort in the knee and underwent surgery in June to rebuild the knee.

Also Tuesday, the Rangers recalled right-hander Shawn Tolleson from the minors and put him on the 60-day DL, creating a spot for left-hander Derek Holland to return from the disabled list and start against the Reds. Tolleson has a strained lower back.

5 things to know about the next Olympics in Tokyo

TOKYO (AP)—The countdown to the 2020 Olympics began Wednesday with the arrival of the Olympic flag in Tokyo from Rio de Janeiro. The contrast between the two host cities couldn't be starker. Instead of samba in the streets, there will be robots and self-driving cars. Five things to know about the next Summer Games:

HIGH-TECH OLYMPICS

When Tokyo first hosted the Olympics in 1964, the games symbolized Japan's recovery from the devastation of World War II and return to the international community. The high-speed `Shinkansen' bullet train service, launched the same year, became a symbol of Japan's technological prowess.

Half a century later, Tokyo is one of the most futuristic cities in the world, from its smart-card train systems that run like clockwork to electronic toilets with heated seats that baffle some first-time visitors ("How do I flush this thing?").

Japan plans to use the 2020 Games to showcase more cutting-edge technology, with robots, instant language translation, self-driving vehicles and high-definition 8K TV all on display.

GETTING AROUND

The Tokyo Games won't be as compact as promised. While original plans called for all venues to be within an eight-kilometer (five-mile) radius of the Olympic Village, that won't be the case.

In an effort to cut costs, several events such as basketball, cycling and taekwondo have been moved to existing facilities outside of Tokyo instead of building new ones.

Tokyo's network of criss-crossing subway and commuter train lines will help. The challenge will be helping visitors navigate a system that is so extensive, it can be confusing.

NEW SPORTS

The games will have a different look from a sporting perspective.

Baseball and softball, surfing, skateboarding, karate and sports climbing have all been added to the program.

Baseball and softball, which are returning for the first time since 2008, and karate are popular in Japan.

Surfing, skateboarding and sports climbing have been added in a bid to appeal to a younger generation of athletes and fans.

SCANDALS

Every Olympics seems to have its scandals, and Tokyo is no exception.

Work on a new main stadium has fallen behind schedule, because the government abandoned the original design due to spiraling costs. The original logo for the games, unveiled with much fanfare, was scrapped over accusations of plagiarism.

The shifting of some events from new to existing venues has saved 200 billion yen ($2 billion), but overall costs are still expected to far exceed initial estimates.

AP

Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike waves the Olympic flag upon arrival at Haneda international airport in Tokyo, Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016. The Olympic flag arrived in Tokyo, host of the next 2020 Summer Games.

The Tokyo organizing committee has admitted that the operating costs for the Games will be considerably higher than the $3 billion forecast in its bid, but it hasn't disclosed a new estimate.

That doesn't include the cost of building new sports venues and other Games-related infrastructure.

EARTHQUAKES

Then there are the forces that are beyond anyone's control.

Tokyo is regularly shaken by moderate earthquakes. They rarely cause any damage in a city where buildings are designed to withstand the shock, but experts warn that a major earthquake could happen anytime.

The coast of northeastern Japan was devastated in 2011 when an offshore magnitude 9.0 earthquake spawned a tsunami that killed more than 18,000 people and triggered meltdowns at three reactors at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant.

Tokyo hasn't had a massive earthquake in nearly a century, since a magnitude 7.9 quake and subsequent fires killed 140,000 people in 1923, so it may be overdue, although the timing of earthquakes is unpredictable.

2016 Endless Summer Beach Volleyball Classic this weekend

The Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association will be hosting the inaugural Endless Summer Beach Volleyball Classic at the Hyatt Regency Saipan this weekend.

"Saipan's weather has always felt like an endless summer, and with so many people returning back on island and many new people arriving, we felt this was the perfect time to host a tournament," tournament director Russ Quinn said.

"Even though the weather has not cooperated lately, we are ready to go for this weekend's event. We will have 4 courts ready to go for 2 days of action," logistic coordinator Tyce Mister added.

The event has three different competitions. For this Saturday, NMIVA will have the men's and women's doubles with a pool play format in the elimination and double-elimination in the afternoon playoffs. Only the first 16 teams to register in each division will be allowed to play.

For the Sunday contest, organizers will switch to a 4-person team event (each team must have at least one member of the opposite sex on the court at all times). Again the Top 16 teams from pool play in the morning will set the rankings and double elimination in the afternoon will determine the champions.

Entry fees are $25 per player and per tournament. The registration fees include an event t-shirt, Sunday BBQ on the beach, drinks and lots of games.

This weekend's event is supported by Pacific Trading Company/Heineken and Gatorade, Docomo Pacific, Bridge Capital, and Hyatt Regency Saipan. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

LEE

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the same foe and Tonga's Sigi Palelei, 4-6, 6-0, 4-10.

With its close win over the East, the North finished 2-0 in the team event as it also topped the West last Tuesday, 6-3.

In other results yesterday, the North and West had a standoff in the boys U12 age group, 4-4. The CNMI's Seung Jin Paik delivered one win for the North after downing Fiji's Armand Davias, 7-5, 6-3. Paik also played in the doubles, but he and fellow Commonwealth bet Ji Min Woo fell to Vanuatu's Maui Leflon and Zachary Sands, 4-6, 3-6. Woo lost to Leflon, too, in an earlier singles match, 5-7, 6-7 (2), while the Federated States of Micronesia's Jerson Freddy gave the North its second singles victory following a 6-0, 6-2 triumph over Fiji's Storm Cornish.

In the girls U12, the West eased past the North, 8-0. The CNMI's Coume Kaga was part of the North Team and dropped both her singles and doubles (with FSM's Ridianne Wolphagen) matches. The West had a similar 8-0 win over the East in the girls U16, while the latter took the boys U16 game, 5-4. In the girls U14, the CNMI's Asia Raulerson and Conatsu Kaga provided the North its lone win in their 2-6 loss to the East after topping American Samoa's Crystal Christman and Samoa's Eleanor Schuster in the doubles, 6-3, 6-2.

Overall, the East Team ruled the team event after winning seven pairings, while the North came in at second with four wins, and the West dropped to third with only three victories.

TORRES

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ing to hold down the former.

Meanwhile, other winners in ROP 20 were Don "The Body Builder" Mendiola, Jordan "The Machine" Manglona, JJ "Superman" Ambrose, Giovanni Taitingfong, Feric "The Medic" Aguon, Blaise Delos Santos, Ko "Pak Pak" Palacios, and James Rego.

Rego of Purefood Guam used his long arms and legs to score a submission win via triangle choke on Team Strike Force Saipan's Ken Santos at the 1:14 mark of the second round. Palacios also won via submission (arm lock) over Team Chaos' Ray "Major' Duenas just 1:21 into Round 1. Delos Santos and Aguon got TKO victories over Willdon 'The Beast" Camacho and "Sugar" Sean Castro in Round 3 (59 seconds) and Round 2 (1:43), respectively. Taitingfong, on the other hand, used a RNC to finish off Gerard "The Killa" Quichocho at the 1:36 mark of the second round.

In one of the three K-1 matches. Mendiola was awarded the win after the second round when Dicky Feria, a last-minute replacement for Alfred Santos, did not answer the bell in Round 3. The last two kickboxing bouts went the distance with Manglona and Ambrose earning unanimous victories over Hayashida Yuuma and Ken "Kamakazi" Tanzawa, respectively.

MCS

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this is one of the many things I've always wanted to experience. Hopefully, in the future there will be more opportunities like this for our young athletes," said Travilla, who will be playing in her last season with Mt. Carmel in the 2016-2017 school year.

"When I get back, I will share what I've learned with my teammates," added Travilla, who led the Lady Knights to their fourth straight championship in the Coalition of Private School Sports Association Basketball League last season.

Reyes will also be playing her last year with Mt. Carmel so the timing of the camp is just perfect for her farewell season with the Lady Knights.

"This opportunity was really unexpected for me. It's always an honor to get chosen for events like these and I'm really thankful for having the chance to go off-island to represent the CNMI in this camp. It's my last year on island before I go to college and I'm excited just knowing that I will able to experience this one last time," Reyes said.

"It will definitely be a learning experience. My only goal is to grow here, expand my skills about the game, mentally and of course, physically. After the camp, I plan to utilize everything that I've learned and put them into play while I'm here. I'm always eager to learn something new about the game and being able to share that with my team afterwards is always fulfilling," the MCS point guard added.

Meanwhile, Lady Knights coach Cathy Attao-Toves said that their team will be relying on Reyes and Travilla when the basketball season opens and their experience in the camp will be a big boost to their leadership skills.

"We have a very young team this season and we are expecting Karleen and Jan to take the leadership role when we start training and playing," Attao-Toves said.

The coach also hopes that the two MCS players' participation in the FIBA camp and the skills they will learn from it will encourage more female players to join the sport and play for their respective schools and other youth leagues on the island.

"We have students who want to try the sports, but are lacking in skills, so if we have players who will learn from the pros and other experts in a camp like this, when they get back they can teach those who are interested to play basketball. That way, we will have more players and more teams joining both the private school and MISO leagues," Attao-Toves said.

The invitation to attend the camp reached Travilla and Reyes just last week so they are working double time to get some funding for their trip to the Land Down Under and they welcome any donation from generous companies or individuals. The two MCS players will leave Saipan for the camp on Aug. 31.

5th Genesis Cup Youth Division Finals

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Joel's Andrew Palino goes up for a reverse shot against Jonah's Gios Gozon during the second half of their title game in the youth division of the 5th Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League held early this month at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Jonah's Leo Li tries to keep his balance on his way for a fast-break shot.

Jonah and Joel players battle for the loose ball.

Joel's Ronnel Ocanada slips past three Jonah defenders for a fast-break layup.

Jonah's Sam Darag pulls up for a baseline jumper against Joel's Mark Ibanes.

Jonah's Chino Ponce releases a floater against the defense of Joel's Ronnel Ocanada.

Joel's Mark Ibanes tries to save the ball from the baseline.

A Jonah player pulls up for a shot against two Joel defenders.

Ware returns to practice, prepares for opener

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Dodgers beat Giants, extend NL West lead

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MCS cagebelles to join FIBA camp

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mount Carmel School standouts Jan-Nasia Travilla and Karleen Reyes are heading to Australia next week to represent the CNMI in the FIBA-sponsored Pacific Youth Leaders Basketball Camp.

The elite basketball and youth development camp will run from Sept. 2 to 11 in Gold Coast and will be ran by ex-WNBA and Australian Opals coach Carrie Graf and five-time Olympian and former Australian Boomers coach Phil Smyth. Other former and current Australian basketball stars will also lend a hand in the 10-day camp, which is for players in the 17 to 20 age group.

"They (participants) will have the opportunity to learn directly from some of Australia's basketball legends as well as work with experienced facilitators to enhance their individual skills and teach them values that lead to success in basketball and in life," FIBA Oceania Executive Director David Crocker said in the invitation letter sent to Travilla and Reyes.

The two Lady Knights are thankful and very excited for this rare opportunity and vowed to make the most out of their experience in the camp.

"I'm grateful for being given the opportunity to be a part of this camp, especially since there are a lot of athletes on island who don't get to experience this. I've been playing basketball since I was 5 and

See MCS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mt. Carmel School's Jan-Nasia Travilla, left photo, and Karleen Reyes, right, are leaving Saipan next week to participate in the FIBA-sponsored Pacific Youth Leaders Basketball Camp in Gold Coast, Australia.

Lee, Song deliver wins for North Pacific Team

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Robbie Schorr, third left, and Ken Song, right, join the two Tahiti players for a photo during the awards ceremony for the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji yesterday.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ken Song and Sean Lee swept their respective singles matches to lift the North Pacific Team to a tough 6-4 victory over the East at the conclusion of the team event in the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji yesterday.

Song played in the second singles matches and outclassed Tahiti's Brendon Fong, 7-5, 7-5, while Lee defeated American Samoa's John Paul Lim, 6-2, 6-1, in the third and final singles game. Lee and Song's sweeps gave the North the needed 4 points to win the pairing, as the Jeff Race-coached squad dropped the first singles and one doubles matches, which both went down-to-the-wire.

Boys U16 singles champion Robbie Schorr bowed to Tahiti's Vaitea Molinier, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 9-11, and also lost in the doubles (with Song) over

See LEE on Page 26

Two in a row for Torres

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Team Liquid Soul/Rage's Vince Torres earned his second straight victory in Rites of Passage after outclassing Spike 22 Guam's Joey Crisostomo in their lightweight bout in ROP 20: Conquer last Friday at The Warehouse.

Torres, who prevailed in his ROP debut in April this year after a TKO win over Khalil Toves in the first round, this time went the distance against Crisostomo, settling for a split decision after three tightly fought rounds. The first and second judge scored the bout, 30-27 and 29-28, for Torres, while the second picked Crisostomo the winner, 29-28.

The match started with the debuting Crisostomo accidentally hitting Torres on the groin. The Saipan bet, fortunately, recovered quickly and engaged his foe in a grappling match the rest of the way. Torres, in the closing minutes of the opening round, tried to employ a triangle choke on Crisostomo, but the latter managed to get free.

In the second round, both fighters had more exchanges on the ground, as they switched positions and tried to neutralize each other's movement. However, no one was willing to give in. In the closing minute of the third and final round, Crisostomo appeared to have a good chance of stopping Torres with a rear-naked choke, but the Team Liquid Soul/Rage's fighter survived and stood up. The bout ended with Torres throwing a couple of punches to Crisostomo's back, while the latter was try-

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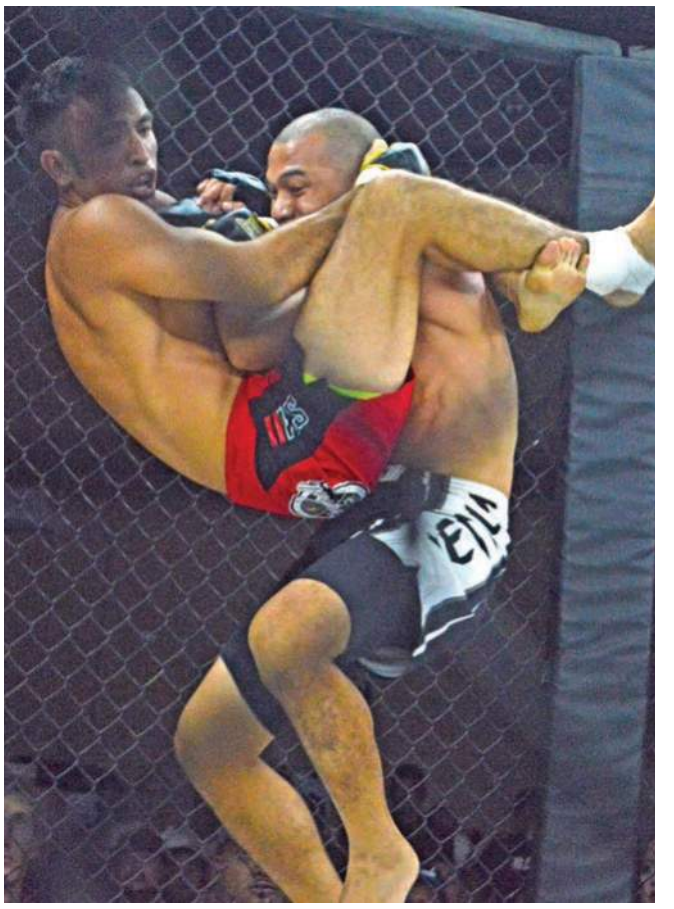

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Joey Crisostomo, left, wraps his legs around Vince Torres to prevent the latter from pinning him down during the second round of their bout in ROP 20: Conquer last Friday at The Warehouse.